

# OUT WEEK

NEW YORK'S  
LESBIAN  
AND GAY  
NEWS  
MAGAZINE



## THE BRAVE NEW WORLD OF **GAY COPS**

**GAYS IN THE  
HOLLYWOOD  
FAMILY**

**MUCH ADO  
ABOUT ARTISTS  
SPACE**

**JOHN PRESTON:  
FROM S/M TO  
AIDS ACTIVISM**

**NEWS' SEXUAL POLITICS' HEALTH • THE ARTS**

## SEX, DATING & INTIMACY

Love, friendship & companionship. Friend, lover & trick.  
Join us for a day of exploration in a fun, sex-positive environment and discover ways men are loving men in this Age of AIDS. Spend the day, make new friends and have a good time playing with us as we address this serious topic. This workshop is for gay and bisexual men only!  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 10am sharp - 6pm**  
(Latecomers will not be admitted)  
The workshop is free, but registration is required.  
Call the **HOTLINE 212-807-6655/TDD 212-645-7470**

Presented by Michael Shernoff, CSW, ACSW and Dan Bloom, CSW

**GMHC**

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Photo: Rink Foto

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**ON THE COVER:** Police Officers Pedro Velazquez (left) and Peter Guardino, photographed by Ellen B. Neipris

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# LETTERS

## 550-HARD to Take

Thank you for *OutWeek*. New York has been long overdue for an intelligent periodical devoted to the lesbian and gay community.

One thing that has consistently disturbed me, however, is the appearance of the 550-HARD ads at the end of each issue I've seen so far. I can't help but read the image as a faceless, headless gay person cuffed, barefoot and helplessly awaiting torture (symbolic or otherwise). My presumption of what this image connotes negates the impact of much of the content which precedes in the body of the magazine. These articles

and other contributions on the whole aspire to liberation and revelation, in contrast to the humiliation implied by the ad in question. I can certainly understand the necessity of raising money for the publication through advertising, and that one can't always afford to be idealistic about the source of such income. However, I question whether the choice of running this ad is a productive compromise. In raising similar questions in a panel presentation at last September's NY Lesbian and Gay Experimental Film Festival (Anthology Film Archives) on Complacency and Activism in the Media, I felt

that much of the audience response was that of evasive consternation. I will be presenting a film in February (also at Anthology) which I hope will further develop the discourse in examining the implications of the prevalent S&M sensibility in gay culture. I hope others in the gay community will begin, continue or resume the assessment of the issues which this condition brings up, and how it relates to our position in a society which seems more and more to teeter on the brink of fascism. Sadism is the traditional expression of fascistic exercise; Masochism is the mirror opposite through which sadism more easily perpetuates. It is my strong feeling

that gays, particularly male whites (which I am not) must begin to question these implications more seriously. Well you may say that that sexual practice is the individual freedom of one's private domain. Not so, I reply, when manifest through advertisement (being the most effective means of per-



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SOTOMAYOR

WITHDRAW THE  
GRANT.... TOO  
POLITICAL !!

NEA

NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
FOR THE  
ARTS



suasion, potentially) and especially within the context of a news magazine. Then it becomes a public issue which warrants discussion.

After the panel I was told that I have the consciousness of a 70s feminist. I'm not sure why, but the idea appeals to me.

Jack Waters  
Manhattan

#### Premature Adulation

Cliff O'Neill's report ("Surgeon Specific," Nov. 20) on the appointment of the new Surgeon General Antonia Novello, sparked questions in the minds of those of us who work with CURE AIDS NOW in Florida. We feel that George Bush's selection bears close scrutiny. The fact that certain AIDS lobbyists credit the new appointment with a clean account before she gets started is reason to be doubly suspicious of her.

An AIDS lobbyist for the American Psychological Association assures us she's shown "an extraordinary level of sensitivity" from which we can take "a great deal of comfort." Can we take this extreme compliment seriously? Hardly. Often a lobbyist must find room on the ground floor when a Power Hat he lobbies takes office. Otherwise his lobbying falls on deaf ears. He works within a system which requires of him that he kiss posteriors—even when those same posteriors have messed in their pants.

To respond to Bush's appointment by insisting on its excellence is, diplomatically speaking, premature. Before rushing to embrace Ms. Novello, it may be wise to reflect that her opposition to abortion probably stems from a Roman Catholic upbringing, and that her approach to sexuality and its social ramifications is, therefore, colored by medieval religious beliefs. Our organization has sent her a letter

requesting her response to statements in Rome by John Cardinal O'Connor who said, "Sometimes I believe the greatest damage done to persons with AIDS is done by the dishonesty of those health care professionals who refuse to confront the moral dimensions of sexual aberrations or drug abuse. Good morality is good medicine."

While Ms. Novello may not be dishonest, she may very well turn out to be schizophrenic if her religious morality comes into conflict with reality as it has already done in the case of abortion.

We already know Bush prefers making appointments to high posts of those who conform to his narrow right-wing-pleasing stances. We can't gloss over the fact that opponents of abortion are usually the same ideologues who see AIDS as a fitting condition for moral deviates.

The new Surgeon General opposes not only abortion but, by extension, fetal research as well. How can a sane Surgeon General oppose fetal research, obviously proven to hold such promise in AIDS research, as in a host of other diseases and cancers? She is joined in this lunacy by Dr. James Mason, Assistant Secretary for Health, who sees the rights of those who have not yet been born as more important than the rights of those who are fully alive.

As long as the new Surgeon General and her cohorts stand in the way, creating blocks to the continuance of life for living patients, it cannot be said of her that she is pro-life in any rational sense. In fact, her interference with fetal research and her acquiescence in the stoppage of fetal experiments will lead to countless deaths. Our new Surgeon General must

renounce this grotesque moralism if she is to be worthy of even one satisfactory mark on her first report card. As long as she opposes fetal research she stands for death, and her grade is F-minus.

Jack Nichols  
CURE AIDS NOW  
Miami, FL

#### ACLU Snafu

I write to correct a statement in the article in last week's (Dec. 3) issue concerning the internal turmoil at National Gay Rights Advocates. That article describes NGR and Lambda as "the only national legal organizations which regularly litigate gay and lesbian civil rights cases." That statement is incorrect; it omits both the National Center for Lesbian Rights, directed by Roberta Achtenberg, and the ACLU.

Although organizations which litigate only lesbian and gay rights cases are a natural focus of attention within our community, it is also important that we realize and recognize where a huge amount of the work is actually being done. The ACLU, through both the National Lesbian and Gay Rights Project in New York and our affiliates throughout the country, now has nine attorneys working full-time on AIDS and gay rights issues. This is more attorneys than NGR (pre-firing) and Lambda combined. Not surprisingly, then, many of the most significant gay rights cases have been handled by ACLU attorneys, including *Braschi v. Stahl Associates* (the gay couple as family case under New York City rent control) and *Watkins v. U.S. Army* (the only military case in which a final federal ruling has ordered a gay soldier reinstated). Indeed, all three of the gay rights cases which have reached

the Supreme Court in the last three years (the Georgia sodomy case, the CIA gay employee case and the gay Olympics case) have been ACLU cases.

The record should be made clear because many, many lesbian and gay men are supporters of the ACLU as well as of diverse lesbian and gay organizations. It is important for them to know that their membership dollars, as well as their earmarked contributions to the ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, pay the bills in these cases and in fact support an enormous chunk of the lesbian and gay civil rights work which goes on in this country.

Nan D. Hunter  
Director  
ACLU Lesbian and Gay



#### Braff New World

Congratulations to GMHC for coming up with an executive director, such as Jeffrey Braff, that my very dear friend Paul Popham, first president and founder of GMHC would be very proud to have carry on in his tradition. Very best wishes to you, Jeffrey Braff.

Mel Cheren  
Manhattan

#### Supporting Safer Sex

Last week I attended a safer sex seminar/support group at the GMHC. At a time when AIDS has affected us all in some way, the weekly occurrence of such meetings is long overdue. I do not mean to insinuate

that men and women are unaware of the dangers. On the contrary, I believe most are. But learning to incorporate the presence of this danger into our daily lives must be a deliberate practice in order to stop the devastation that this microscopic virus has taken on our lives. Education is not only being aware of how the virus is transported, but also how to utilize that awareness outside of the bedroom. When the government is afraid to even acknowledge the presence of AIDS, it is up to the individual to actively support the practice of safer sex. She or he should not view it as an alternative to sex but, with condoms readily available, should celebrate sex as love and life affirming.

If you hold the erroneous belief that a safer sex

seminar has nothing to offer you, why not offer something of yourself? Or as a couple? The gay community is still facing seemingly insurmountable barriers from all sides. By actively showing support for sex that is safer, we can reaffirm that those of us who are concerned and aware are not a minority within a minority.

William C. Newcomb  
Manhattan

#### Lisbon Trivialization?

I'm incredibly perplexed by Jonn Wasser's review of Terence McNally's *Lisbon Traviata*. Where does he say that it is filled with ugly, old, pernicious stereotypes of gay men growing sad and unbeautiful? Did he really not see what enraged me? Did he not see that this was a story which endorsed the

notion that gay men grow bitter and depressed as they lose youth? This was the first time I ever hissed at a stage.

In the briefest of allusions to Mendy's daughter, Stephen tells us that he believes the emptiness of his emotional well would be filled if only he himself had been a parent. The sad Mendy is thus rendered more valid because of his procreational accident. Stephen really means he would imagine himself happy if only he had a captive human attachment—a role which he seeks to assign his lover, who is understandably running scared in the second act. Bullshit fantasy! There are enough painfully empty parents out there. Of course many lives, gay, lesbian and straight are enriched by parenting. But the idea that gay and les-

bian lives are somehow incomplete continues to rationalize the subtle homophobia of even our "friends." Yet that thesis is near the core of this play.

Here is a significant piece of cross-over theater and it invests all its energies in telling its audience a story of a depleted life and foundering narcissism. No doubt the world is filled with painfully desperate characters such as Stephen. But Jonn Wasser ties it to homosexuality. Is this what a writer of gay themes has to promote in order to be shown at a mainstream theater? Must we supply them with self-hating stereotypes? How sad for us. Yes massa, I sho' do know dat I be lazy, but p'haps I can dance a few steps to you.

Ron Winchel

Jonn Wasser Responds:

If Mr. Winchel feels angered by what he saw onstage, he would be best to address his peevish to the author. (c/o Gilbert Partner, William Morris Agency, 135 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019) I stand by my review.

## STONEWALL RIOTS

by ANDREA NATALIE



LIKE MANY WOODSWOMEN BEFORE HER, ANGELA  
HAD USED LEAVES IN LIEU OF TOILET PAPER.

## Corrections

The byline for a news article on gays in Guatemala accompanying last week's women's health column was inadvertently omitted. The article was by Rex Wockner.

**OutWeek** welcomes letters from its readers. Please include your name and phone number for verification, and mail all correspondence to:

Letters to the Editor  
**OutWeek Magazine**  
77 Lexington Avenue  
New York, NY 10010

# XEROXED

## The Real Deal

To the Editor  
The New York Times

The majority of the people (and not a single patient!) that Gina Kolata interviewed for her article of November 21, 1989, ("Innovative AIDS Drug Plan May be Undermining Testing") told her that her thesis was baseless. (Since when did the *Times* begin reserving front page space for what "may be?") All the activists, officials from the National Institutes of Health and representatives from Bristol-Myers, sponsor of the drug in question, were unanimous: there's no evidence that expanded access is slowing trial enrollment. But that didn't stop the article, or change its headline.

If Kolata, rather than flipping through her rolodex till she happened upon the names she could attach to the sentiments she'd framed already, had spent a little time in thinking the thesis through critically, she'd perhaps have asked the salient questions. She'd have asked, first: how quickly have ACTG (AIDS Clinical Trials Group) trials historically accrued (to provide some basis for comparison); and second: how quickly was ddI's expanded access program expected to enroll patients (to see if anything is awry). But the answers might have deprived her of her boffo headline—tabloid in wingtips—and hence her frontpage slot. Because the answers are that: ACTG trials have rarely accrued so briskly as the ddI studies are accruing, and the demand for ddI on the expanded access protocols has in fact been less than Bristol-Myers expected it to be.

Kolata could have done us all a real service had she written an article about the *real* barriers to accrual to the ddI trials, none of them being the drug's availability on a prototype for parallel track. She would have found that several of the sites around the country were late in receiving approval for the ddI studies from their institutional review boards (IRBs). She would have found that the pharmacies at many of the trial sites received the drug late, or received an incorrect constitution of the drug. She would have learned that many trial sites only have enough staff to perform the requisite baseline tests on a few trial partici-

pants a week. She would have learned that many people who at first consider entering the two trials that measure ddI vs. AZT have second thoughts when they hear the AZT dose is 1200 mg. a day, a dose which medical practice now says is far too high. She might have learned that people on the waiting lists for the ddI trials can wait for months without hearing from their local trial site. Yes—that's right—waiting lists. At every site in NY there are long waiting lists for the ddI trials. Just as there are around the country. Many hospitals are no longer adding names to the lists. To read the Kolata article, you'd never know there are people trying desperately to get into the trials. But this, of course, would have required investigative AIDS reporting of a sort we've

long despaired of ever seeing in the *Times*.

So why are the trial's principal investigators (PIs)—the only people who see a problem—complaining about accrual when they've far from exhausted their waiting lists? Because it's easier to blame the one humanitarian program that we've ever been able to wring from the research establishment (parallel track) for the problems they've always had in accruing patients than it is to take some responsibility for resolving the problems. The fact that there are waiting lists for the ddI trials is in fact a direct result of the publicity that we who worked for the early availability of ddI were able to generate about the drug. And now, through their ineptitude at accrual, the local PIs are about to fritter

## Nightmare of the Week



This week's nasty piece of business is Health and Human Services Secretary Louis Sullivan. Arch-homophobe Congressman Dannemeyer wrote Sullivan complaining about an HHS report which confirmed that homophobia often drives gay kids to suicide. Sullivan replied that the report, although undoubtedly true, didn't reflect his or the government's "pro-family" view and he then proceeded to try to suppress it.

Therefore, we dedicate this ditty to Secretary shitty:

There once was a nightmare named Louis  
Whose Party kept trying to screw us  
Our deaths you condone  
You shit-eating drone  
Up yours, Lou. Now go try to sue us!



away that human resource, waiting lists of willing trial participants, that we activists have delivered to them. (If they do, may they be defunded!)

Of course there are a lot more people taking ddI outside the trials than inside the trials: the trials by their nature are very exclusionary. That's how clinical trials are conducted in this country. Everyone I know who is getting ddI on an expanded access protocol is ineligible for a clinical trial. That's how the program has been designed. The PIs fear there is mass cheating. They're wrong. In order to cheat to get into the expanded access program, a patient would have to convince a doctor to lie about his or her condition. Believe me, for those who are ineligible for parallel access but unwilling to enroll in a clinical trial, it's easier to get ddI on the underground than it is to find a doctor who'll risk malpractice and lie.

If Kolata's headline were simply an untruth, it would be easier to overlook. Those of us who know it's

wrong could simply wait till history proves it wrong. But this headline, because it's a prediction, is particularly (murderously) dangerous. When the *NY Times* predicts an outcome on its front page, it becomes a player in history, helping to bring about the very thing it's predicting. Who in my community who reads the Kolata article is going to rush to enroll in clinical trials that they feel their fellow-community members are avoiding in droves? If accrual now does lag, the *Times* and the whining PIs who fueled this baseless story will have a share of the blame. (I should note here that Dr. Fred Valentine of NYU, though his name appears in the story, is not one of those PIs: he has been misrepresented in the Kolata article. He told me privately, and then told an audience full of community members last Saturday, that it is far too early to say whether ddI's expanded availability will interfere with accrual and that, though it might in the future, there are still waiting lists to get into the trials. Kolata was told this.

She chose to misleadingly trim Dr. Valentine's comments for her own ends.) The longer the trials take to accrue, the longer my community will wait for a definitive answer about ddI's effectiveness. With AIDS, we measure delays in lives. The PIs who contributed to this story sure found one hell of a way to facilitate trial accrual.

Talk about "investigator bias"! At least in our clinical trials we usually "blind" the PIs (as the jargon has it) to guard against bias. But what can we do to minimize their bias when it comes to the parallel track? It would seem that a number of them were blind to parallel track before it even began. How scientific! How humane! How sadly typical.

Jim Elgo

#### Strange Conclusions

Letters

*The New York Times*

Of all the idiotic, half-baked conclusions you have come to in your editorials on AIDS and of all the incomplete/inaccurate reporting that Bruce Lambert has

done on the AIDS crisis, never has the *Times* recorded itself in history as being so stupid as with your recent article "Health Board Backs Move to Trace AIDS" (15 Nov. 89) and editorial "Dr. Joseph and AIDS Testing" (16 Nov. 89).

To begin with, Lambert should do a little more investigating on the subject rather than just regurgitating what comes down in official DOH media releases. He just might have discovered that there was a story here—like how some members of the New York City Board of Health didn't even know this plan was going to the state until they read about it in the *Times*! How did they read "consensus" if not all members even KNEW about the action?

Secondly, if your editorial and reporting staff were really doing their homework like even mediocre media persons should, you would realize that contact tracing programs such as we already have for gonorrhea and syphilis don't really work. Just look at the dramatic increase over the last decade we have had (in NYC alone) in these two sexually transmitted diseases. And this increase has happened while your great Dr. Joseph and his staff have been doing contact tracing. These diseases even have complete cures available. If contact tracing is as effective as you and he would like us to believe, why haven't they been able to keep them under control? Contact tracing may look good on an administrator's paper plan but it doesn't work in reality.

The third important reason why contact tracing is a stupid idea at this time in this epidemic is that it is not cost effective. We already don't have enough money to pay for the prevention, treatment

## Blurt Out

### THE MIND BOGGLES...

"Who in today's art world doesn't know about homosexual turn-ons?" blithers critic Mark Stevens in December's *Vanity Fair*.

### I'M SO SURE...

One can only guess what those wacky girls were up to at L.A.'s Second Annual All-Girl All-Night B-Day Pajama Party. The November 27 issue of *People* reports that "[Laraine] Newman admitted she felt 'very vulnerable' since the invites read NO MEN." Maybe Ms. Bernhard's flannelette get-up had her twittering.

### THIS, I'M NOT GOING TO TOUCH...

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—Sarah Pettit

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All this is beside the

point that study after study has indicated that those most in need of care will be less likely to come for care if contact tracing is a part of the process. Why can't supposedly the most intelligent media left in this country not be brave enough to see what is really happening here!

Rodger Pettyjohn

#### Skid Row Must Go

Atlantic Records  
Dear Mr. Ertegun:

I must protest the neo-Nazi propaganda "AIDS kills fags dead" on the T-shirt of Sebastian Bach of your group Skid Row (as seen in *Metal Edge* magazine)...in part because I am a survivor of nearly fatal anti-gay violence.

The bad will towards Atlantic Records, created by this bigotry, will cause me to boycott your company, until

it stops supporting this advocacy of hatred and violence.

Jim Davis  
Elizabeth, NJ

#### Sorry, Wrong Bummer

Bohdan Zachary  
GLAAD/LA  
Los Angeles, CA 90004  
Dear Mr. Zachary:

In response to your letter, I agree that Sebastian Bach's t-shirt was offensive, and neither I nor my publishers condone its message. We thoroughly regret printing the photos and will include a statement to that effect in the April issue of *Metal Edge*, on sale Dec. 26 (the March issue has already been printed).

Please accept our heartfelt apology and assurance that this will never happen again.

Gerri Miller  
Exec. Editor  
*Metal Edge*

#### Blinder, Gentler Nation?

The Hon. George Bush  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20050  
Dear President Bush:

As you know, a recently published "Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Youth Suicide" showed some startling statistics on a rarely talked about national shame—namely, the high number of lesbian and gay youth suicides. The study, conducted by former Secretary of Health and Human Services, Otis Bowen, was researched with scientific objectivity, and points up what many professionals working with adolescent populations have long suspected:

- Lesbian and gay youth are two to three times more likely to attempt suicide than other young people;
- Lesbian and gay youth may comprise up to

### Dykes to Watch Out For



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Washington, DC 20050

Dear President Bush:

As you know, a recently published "Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Youth Suicide" showed some startling statistics on a rarely talked about national shame—namely, the high number of lesbian and gay youth suicides. The study, conducted by former Secretary of Health and Human Services, Otis Bowen, was researched with scientific objectivity, and points up what many professionals working with adolescent populations have long suspected:

- Lesbian and gay youth are two to three times more likely to attempt suicide than other young people;

- Lesbian and gay youth may comprise up to

### Dykes to Watch Out For



30 percent of all completed suicides annually:

- Gay teen suicide can only be prevented by ending discrimination against youths based on sexual orientation.

As I am also sure you are aware, Congressman William Dannemeyer of California is a long-standing foe of the entire lesbian and gay community of the United States. He has recently contacted you and Secretary of Health and Human Services, Dr. Louis Sullivan, in attempts to squelch these recent findings, by condemning them as anti-"traditional family values." This type of hate-mongering censorship of the facts will only result in one thing—the needless deaths of thousands of lesbian and gay teenaged Americans.

I ask you, Mr. President, to please consider this: From where, if not from "traditional American families," do gay and lesbian teenagers come? Lesbian and gay youth are the offspring of heterosexual "traditional" families, as are heterosexual youth. Lesbian and gay teenagers are indeed part of American society—they comprise at least ten percent of those "thousand points of light" of which you so eloquently spoke. Mr. President, don't support the snuffing out of their "points of light" by caving in to Congressman Dannemeyer's campaign of hate. He is playing political games with the lives of our young people by his moral posturing.

"Traditional family values" are not the issue here; preventing youth suicide is the issue! The people who serve youth in this country (doctors, teachers, parents, counselors, etc.) need to know the results of the task force study on youth suicide—it is literally a matter of life and death. I urge

you and Secretary Sullivan to meet with representatives of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force to discuss this matter. Don't send out a message that "kinder and gentler" applies to only the lives of a select few in this country—by the very definition of those words, your compassion must extend to all Americans.

Richard S. Haymes  
Deputy Director  
Community Health Proj.  
Youth Services Division  
Manhattan

#### God's Wrath?

John Vilet Lindsay  
Board of Directors  
Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts  
Dear Mr. Lindsay:

I am concerned, having just been shown the current *OutWeek* (19 November 1989), which indicates that at dinner parties you have discussed some "gay problem" and stated that AIDS may indeed be "God's retribution to the gay community."

Whether or not you have been correctly depicted, you owe it to old friends to make your position clear and in more detail to editors at *OutWeek*. Or write me, and I will relay your views to them.

Warren Allen Smith  
President  
Variety Recording Studio  
Manhattan

#### Bash Re-hash

Ms. Barbara Jones  
First Asst. to the Dist. Att'y  
Dear Ms. Jones:

Thank you for meeting with us last week, after the conclusion of the Carl Schurz Park gay-bashing case. We write to you as members of GLAAD, ACT UP and of the gay and lesbian community at large. At this time, we would like to restate our demands.

1) It is imperative that Mr. Morgenthau use his influence to lobby for the Bias-Related Violence Bill that

has languished before the State Senate. We demand that he strongly endorse the bill, both as an individual and as representative of the Manhattan District Attorney's office. Finally, we demand that he use his influence and leadership with the New York State Association of District Attorneys to convince the organization to strongly endorse and lobby for the Bill. It should be clear that we consider the so-called "generic" Bill to be unacceptable, all endorsements should be for the Bill that clearly identifies specific forms of bias, including attacks on gays and lesbians.

2) Gay-bashing cases across the country should be researched to determine effective strategies for successfully prosecuting these cases. This material should be made available to all the A.D.A.s in your office.

3) We demand homophobia sensitivity training for all A.D.A.s and all staff of the D.A.'s office. If this has already been implemented, we want the opportunity to review existing training procedures and offer advice on how to improve them.

4) We demand the immediate appointment of an openly gay or lesbian A.D.A. We also demand the opportunity to review recruitment policies of your office, and specifically, any existing program aimed at recruiting gay and lesbian A.D.A.s.

While we are concentrating on general issues in this letter, we continue to be outraged by the way in which the Carl Schurz Park gay-bashing case was handled by the A.D.A., Dan Parker and others in your office. We assume that you will be investigating the matter internally and ask that you inform us of your findings.

It is crucial that we meet directly with the District

Attorney since he figures prominently in a number of our demands. We would consider such a meeting to be an essential indication of your office's commitment to resolving our concerns. While we appreciate your past efforts and look forward to working closely with you to resolve this matter, we don't feel that another meeting with you alone would be productive at this point.

An increasingly publicized epidemic of anti-gay/lesbian violence is sweeping this city, state and country; it is evident that the current system for prosecuting these cases is insufficient. We cannot afford to wait any longer, as gays and lesbians (and those perceived as such) are being attacked every day. We are dealing with a crisis, and swift action is necessary.

We will be monitoring these cases as they come up. We will not hesitate to blame publicly those whose inaction, or lack of competence, results in gay/lesbian-bashers getting off with just a slap on the wrist. For gays and lesbians to be safe in New York, gay-bashers need to know that they will be punished swiftly and surely for their actions.

Please contact GLAAD with your response by Friday, December 1.

Alan Beck, ACT UP  
Bruce Elerin, Crime Victim  
Mark Carson, ACT UP, GLAAD  
Jim Fouratt, ACT UP, Art Positive, GLAAD  
Gordon Harrell, ACT UP, GLAAD  
Marty King, ACT UP, Team New York  
Ken Lustbader, GLAAD  
Tom McKean, ACT UP  
Adrian Milton, ACT UP, GLAAD  
Bill Monahan, ACT UP  
Michael Petrelis, ACT UP  
Karin Schwartz, GLAAD  
Randy Synder, ACT UP  
Josh Weyser, GLAAD

# PUBLIC HEALTH MENACE



**CARDINAL O'CONNOR**

Cardinal O'Connor wants to force women to have children.

Cardinal O'Connor opposes the teaching of safe sex in order to save lives.

Cardinal O'Connor condones hatred and violence against lesbians and gays.

IF THIS BOTHERS YOU, JOIN US AT THE LARGEST DEMONSTRATION IN HISTORY AT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL.

FIGHT THE CHURCH'S OPPOSITION TO SAFE LEGAL ABORTION

FIGHT THE CHURCH'S MURDEROUS AIDS POLICY

FIGHT INSTITUTIONALIZED HOMOPHOBIA

**ACT UP** (AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power) AND **WHAM!** (Women's Health Action Mobilization) ARE COORDINATING A **LEGAL PICKET AND CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE** AT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL TO STOP CHURCH INTERFERENCE IN OUR LIVES.

**BE THERE!!**

## STOP THIS MAN

**MASSIVE PROTEST**  
**SUNDAY • DECEMBER 10**  
**9:30 AM**  
**ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL**  
**5TH AVE. & 50TH STREET**

**ACT UP**  
ACT UP is a coalition of groups that work together to fight AIDS.  
**WHAM!**  
WHAM! is a coalition of groups that work together to fight AIDS.

FOR INFORMATION ON THE DEMONSTRATION OR PARTICIPATION IN CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE TRAINING CALL 989-1114



## News

# Rights Panel Backs Fired AIDS Staff

## City HRC Chief Forced to Reinstate Gay Execs

by James Waller

NEW YORK—A group of more than 40 representatives of a panoply of AIDS service organizations operating throughout New York City together with other members of the lesbian and gay community crowded the hearings chamber of the city's Human Rights Commission on Wednesday morning, November 29, eager to make their presence felt and to voice their dismay over what they considered the unsatisfactory resolution of the case involving the demotion and dismissal, last month, of the director and deputy director of the commission's AIDS Discrimination Division.

The session, which was held at the commission's offices in lower Manhattan, was the agency's regular monthly meeting, but, as at its previous meeting in late October, much of the agenda was taken up with a discussion of the continuing problems that have ensued after a decision by commission chairman, Rev. John Brandon, on October 24 to demote the AIDS Discrimination Division's director, Keith O'Connor, and to fire his deputy, Katy Taylor.

The so-called disciplinary actions initiated against O'Connor and Taylor by Brandon, on the advice of deputy commissioner for law enforcement Rolando Acosta, instigated a wave of outrage within the gay and AIDS-service communities, and have ultimately led the Human Rights commissioners themselves to reflect deeply on public perception of the commission's work and to set in motion a plan to rectify the philosophical, structural and procedural problems besetting the agency.

October's meeting had closed with a decision by the commission to set up an ad hoc committee charged with investigating the reasons for the

actions taken against the AIDS division's leaders and exploring the reciprocal allegations of bias that had been made by O'Connor and Taylor, both gay, and by Acosta and others associated with the HRC.

### "Conditional" Reinstatement

But in response to the ad hoc committee's proposals, Brandon orig-



**RECONSIDERED**  
**John Brandon**

Photo: Bill Bytsura

inally chose to implement its recommendation to establish a thorough review of the division's approaches to AIDS discrimination cases, but stopped short of adopting its suggestion to fully reinstate O'Connor and Taylor. Instead, he opted to restore O'Connor's title and duties on a "conditional" basis and to transfer Taylor to the position of deputy director of the commission Field Services Division, where, as his memo in the subject puts it, she could "continue her work in fighting against AIDS discrimination."

### Unanimous Dissent

But following an executive session held immediately after the general meeting, which was closed to observers and to the press, Brandon announced that the 12 members of the commission present had unanimously recommended that he reconsider his decision, and unconditionally reinstate Taylor and O'Connor to their jobs.

And on Friday morning, Dec. 1, Lonnie Soury, a department spokesman, announced that the two would, in fact, be returned to the positions they previously held, and promised a "reorganization in the lines of communication" in the various divisions of the commission so that similar situations do not arise in the future.

### No Incidence of Bias

"Once the commissioners got involved, there was only resolution: what's best for the agency," Soury told *OutWeek*, adding, "The commission found no incidence of bias on either side. The fact that Katy and Keith are gay was never part of the equation."

David Wertheimer, the executive director of the Lesbian and Gay Anti-Violence Project and a New York City human rights commissioner, said he agreed with Brandon's assessment.

"The problems that emerged were rooted in structural and organizational problems, not racism, sexism or homophobia," he told *OutWeek*. But he added, "It took enormous effort on the part of all parties to come to such a productive resolution to the crisis."

Acosta and Taylor both said that they were asked not to speak to the press. But in a prepared statement released by the Human Rights Com-

mission, Keith O'Connor wrote, "We are relieved to see that services are back in place to assist people with AIDS there needing our help and we just want to get back to work."

In the same press release, Rolando Acosta stated, "The work we do at the commission is bigger than any one of us. It is time that we all put this matter behind us, so that the commission can devote all of its resources to fighting *all* of the ugly forms of discrimination in this city."

In a phone interview, David Wertheimer also noted how important a role the community can play in similar cases. "It is extremely important and valuable for the community to let public agencies, like the HRC, know exactly what they're thinking," he said. "The value and importance of outspoken community activism should never be underestimated in New York City. When the community has something to say, it should not be silent."

#### Investigation Commences

The ad hoc committee of human rights commissioners, who are appointed by the mayor and receive no salary from the city, included Glenn Lau-Kee, Philip Rivera, Harilyn Russo and Marie Wilson, an open lesbian and executive director of the Ms. Foundation. The panel, which was chaired by commissioner Burt Neuborne, spent more than 20 hours

during early November in consideration of the issue, conducting dozens of in-person and telephone interviews and examining letters solicited from former employees of the division.

In a report submitted to Brandon on November 16, the committee discounted the charges of bias made by the parties on both sides of the issue, complemented the AIDS Discrimination Division on the "effectiveness and innovation" it has shown under O'Connor's and Taylor's leadership in solving problems encountered by people with AIDS, and recommended that both O'Connor and Taylor be reinstated in full to their former executive positions in the division.

The committee's investigation also revealed that the tensions that led to O'Connor's demotion and Taylor's dismissal grew out of a fundamental difference of opinion concerning the *modus operandi* of the AIDS division, with its leaders preferring hands-on methods of advocacy and mediation in contrast to upper management's preferred route of conducting litigation against alleged offenders.

(In a talk with *OutWeek*, a source closely familiar with the agency's workings speculated that the real reason for O'Connor's demotion and Taylor's dismissal had been a growing dissatisfaction among certain of the HRC's bureaucrats with the unorthodox methods employed by the AIDS division's leadership. According to this source, differences of opinion concerning approach were allowed to degenerate into grievances of a personal nature.)

During the course of last Wednesday's meeting, Chairman Brandon made several cryptic statements implying that even if the situation had not developed in the way it did, some sort of change in the AIDS division's hierarchy had been inevitable, hinting that this applied especially to Taylor's role within the agency.)



**REDOUBTABLE**  
David Wertheimer

Photo: Bill Bytsura

compromise, Brandon's move to partially reinstate O'Connor and Taylor only fueled the dissatisfaction of concerned AIDS workers within and outside the HRC and disappointed and puzzled the members of the ad hoc committee as well as a number of other commissioners.

While expressing gratitude to Brandon for having permitted the investigation, ad hoc committee chairman Neuborne, during his opening report at Wednesday's meeting, also voiced his befuddlement at the commission chairman's revisions to accept all the committee's recommendations and stated that he was "troubled by the possibility that the issue may not be put to rest" because of the course of action Brandon had chosen.

Neuborne was also bothered, he said, by the fact that he and the other committee members had not been told why their recommendation of complete reinstatement had been rejected, and he was upset that "the affected party [Taylor] had not had a chance to make her case to the person who made the final decision [Brandon]."

#### Mystery Decision

Neuborne's assertion was corroborated later in the meeting by Taylor herself, who contended that no accusations had ever been formally made against her and that, during all the

See HRC on page 68



**REINSTATED**  
Katy Taylor

Photo: Bill Bytsura

**Failed Compromise**  
Obviously intended as a

## News

# Chicago Mayor Storms Out of Gay Meeting

## *Community "Cut Off" from Administration, Activists Arrested in City Hall.*

by Rex Wockner

CHICAGO—Livid and beet-red, Chicago Mayor Richard Daley stormed out of an explosive meeting with several hundred members of the gay and lesbian community Nov. 20.

And as he shot down the stairs of Ann Sather restaurant on Belmont, Daley reportedly turned to his cadre of associates and snapped, "You people really fucking blew it."

Daley had been summoned to the meeting by a full-page ad in the

Lesbian Issues (COGLI) has not been granted a single meeting in the first seven months of the administration.

Further, Daley has failed to formally appoint five COGLI nominees who have "languished in bureaucratic limbo" since the day he took office.

In the meantime, activists say that community communication with the mayor is increasingly restricted to one person—mayoral special assistant Nancy Reiff, whom Daley has identified as his gay liaison.

Asked about the reaction, one activist explained, "Nancy has angered us by repeatedly toeing what she perceives to be the administration line—advocating for the mayor to the community, rather than for the community to the mayor. She's a team player in the bad sense of that term—probably even more than they want her to be."

A number of the city's activists say they would prefer that the city's paid Coordinator of Gay and Lesbian



**CUT OFF**  
COGLI's Jon Simmons

*Chicago Sun-Times* and the gay press following two months of growing anger with Daley's alleged inattention to the community.

Under former Mayors Harold Washington and Eugene Sawyer, gay activists say they had direct and virtually unlimited access to the mayor's office.

Under Daley, activists say, the mayor's own Committee on Gay and



**PISSED OFF**  
COGLI's Larry Rolla

Reiff, a lesbian, is a personal friend of the mayor but does not have a working relationship with most of the city's gay and lesbian leaders.

At the Nov. 20 meeting, the crowd loudly booed and hissed each time Daley mentioned Reiff's name. Sitting beside the mayor, she appeared stunned and hurt by the rejection.



**WENT OFF**  
Chicago Mayor Richard Daley

Photos: Rex Wockner

Issues, Jon Simmons, have the mayor's ear.

But Simmons, who was hired by Mayor Sawyer, says he has been "cut off" from any access to City Hall and instructed to report to Human Rights Commission (HRC) head Clarence Wood, who reportedly reports to Reiff, who then reportedly relays information to Daley.



### How It Happened So Fast

Activists first publicly expressed distress with the administration following the late October postponement of the HRC Annual Awards Luncheon.

Four activists who spearheaded last year's passage of Chicago's gay rights ordinance had been set to receive awards and all was proceeding smoothly until the last-minute addition of an award for the late alderman George Hagopian.

Hagopian, who was to be honored for his support of veterans, was the city council's loudest anti-gay voice during hearings on the gay rights law.

When the four activists objected to receiving their award on the same stage as Hagopian, HRC's Wood cancelled the whole luncheon and revoked all the awards.

At first the administration said the reason for the cancellation was gay anger. Two days later, they announced that the problem had been "low ticket sales." By the Nov. 20 meeting, Daley was saying the luncheon was postponed so HRC could devise a better process for selecting awardees.

### Frustration Grows, Publicity Mounts

As a wide spectrum of activists began informally discussing the "luncheon fiasco," they learned that frustration with Daley's "inattention" had spread to all of the community's diverse political factions.

In short order, COGLI chair Larry Rolla hand-delivered a letter to Daley, putting forth the community's concerns. The letter demanded that Daley:

- \* honor campaign promises to appoint open gays to city boards and commissions,
- \* formally appoint the five COGLI nominees and retain the community-based COGLI selection process,
- \* meet directly with gay leaders,
- \* hire open gays for city jobs,
- \* and give Simmons the resources to properly do his job.

By the Nov. 20 meeting, the demands also included:

- \* more city money to fight AIDS,
- \* the scrapping of a new city AIDS education campaign that has been criticized by community-based AIDS organizations,
- \* and the implementation of a

promised education "blitz" to publicize the protections of the Human Rights Ordinance.

### The Meeting

Daley entered the community forum to a raucous standing ovation, but he left amidst boos, jeers and chants of "Shame, shame, shame."

Depending on who is dissecting the breakdown, blame is placed on one of three sources:

- \* Daley, who many believe was far too aggressive in his opening remarks,
- \* Rolla, who apparently departed from his promised remarks and questioned the administration's honesty and integrity, or
- \* ACT UP members and others, who angered the mayor with a small amount of heckling.

Community activists took a tough stance from the start, with emcee Mike Savage asserting, "In the last six months, some of our hopes and expectations have changed to doubt and frustration and, in some cases, anger.... We don't want decisions made for us, we want them made with us."

Activists then gave the mike to Daley for opening remarks. But the mayor departed from his prepared text after the crowd booed his introduction of Reiff.

"I'm very proud I appointed Nancy my special assistant," Daley emotionally responded. The crowd booed and hissed. "I know it's not your choice," Daley continued, "it's my choice. You're right. Hey, this doesn't serve anyone's purpose. I don't boo you, you don't boo me. If you want to get into a confrontation, the press love it. You want to just show confrontation constantly?"

The meeting then turned to AIDS for ten minutes, as Acting Health Commissioner Richard Krieg argued that his department does not need more city money to fight AIDS until the alleged financial mess left by the previous administration has been untangled.

Then it was Rolla's turn to speak. Apparently departing from his promised text, Rolla stated:

"Tonight, my brothers and sisters, you are going to hear the whole truth.... There has been a concerted effort to

## Where to from here?

CHICAGO—At deadline, a couple of developments took place that provide some hint of where the Chicago controversy will head in the next month.

First, a broad-based coalition of about 100 activists met Nov. 27 and placed several items on a "Where Do We Go From Here?" agenda.

They include: Fighting for COGLI's status as a committee and its community-based member selection process, holding regular gay/lesbian community forums, working to save Jon Simmons' job, informational pickets at Daley events, another letter of demands to the mayor, increased ACT UP-style protests to insure TV coverage, an end to "gay leader-bashing" and a commitment that anyone talking to the mayor will insist that, before anything else, he meet with COGLI.

Secondly, representatives of *Chicago Outlines*, *The Windy City Times* and *Gay Chicago*, the city's three gay newspapers, met for an hour with Daley on Nov. 29.

At that meeting, the mayor and his press secretary, Avis Lavelle, said that they plan to meet with COGLI in early December, that Jon Simmons is not going to be fired, that Nancy Reiff has been instructed to dialogue with a wider spectrum of the gay/lesbian community, and that the city intends to retain its controversial new "Just Say No"-style AIDS education campaign that utilizes the phrase, "I will not get AIDS."

Plans are also underway to transform COGLI into a formal city commission with subpoena and other powers, Daley said. Gay activists, however, have lobbied against the change and, at press time, believed they had the votes in the city council to kill the measure.

Formalizing the committee, activists believe, would deprive it of an essential independence from the administration.

—R.W.

See CHICAGO on page 68

## News

# British Health Agency Shuts AIDS Office

## Press proclaims "Straight Sex is Safe"

by Keith Alcorn

LONDON — Great Britain's Health Education Authority disbanded its AIDS Division last week, after a tumultuous week which saw three national newspapers, with combined circulations of over 6 million, claim "straight sex is safe."

"This situation is more serious than Clause 28," said Maureen Oliver, of the Organization of Lesbian and Gay Action (OLGA), which spearheaded resistance to the two-year-old legislation that bans government funding of any art or educational materials deemed to "promote homosexuality."

On November 17, the *Sun*, *The Daily Express*, and the *The Daily Mail*, all strong supporters of the Thatcher government, ran front-page stories proclaiming that heterosexual transmission of HIV was nothing but gay propaganda.

This followed the revelation during debate in the House of Lords that only one British AIDS case was due to heterosexual transmission so far. This figure does not, however, take into account the number of heterosexuals who are currently infected with HIV, nor the fact that the number of heterosexuals who actually have AIDS, but have not been officially diagnosed by public health authorities, is probably greater.

"This is merely the latest stage in a long-running campaign by the moral right in the U.K. to marginalize the epidemic, and pin the blame on gays and drug users," said author Simon Watney of London's leading AIDS organization, the Terrence Higgins Trust.

### Sex Survey Scrapped

Since August there have been clear indications that priority for AIDS-

related issues was being downgraded by the government. The first sign was the disbanding of the cabinet AIDS committee, set up to oversee policy.

And in September, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher personally intervened to scrap a government-sponsored sexual behavior survey on the grounds that it would be "an invasion of privacy."

In November, the Health Education Authority postponed a campaign aimed at normalizing condom use. Although the official explanation was that advertising prepared for the campaign was unsuitable, sources within the HEA claimed the campaign was cancelled on the direct orders of the prime minister.

Following a reshuffling of the cabinet last month, Virginia Bottomley took over as second in command at the Department of Health. Her husband is a Member of Parliament, and a keen Thatcher supporter. He is also a member of two pro-family organizations.

### Civil Servants Silenced

And members of British AIDS organizations are increasingly worried about the way civil servants concerned about AIDS issues in the Department of Health have been shut out of decision making by right-wingers, led by Bottomley.

Watney believes the network of pro-family groups is now so influential it will make a public attempt to disfund the Terrence Higgins Trust, and other non-government groups, on the grounds they are homosexual lobbyists. The Trust is 50,000 pounds (about \$75,000) in the red this financial year, and severe cutbacks would be necessary if it lost any of its 400,000 pound

(about \$600,000) government grant.

"This also means we can expect cuts in AIDS funding, and no money for treatment research. Coupled with the government's refusal to address the reality of heterosexual HIV, this is a genocidal campaign orchestrated by viciously homophobic politicians scared that the Tory party (to which Thatcher belongs) is losing its grip on power," Watney said.

ACT UP/London planned an action for December 1, World AIDS Day, to draw attention to the crisis, but is also asking AIDS organizations in the United States to write to the Health Education Authority and the Department of Health, pointing out what they call the devastating results of government neglect of AIDS in the U.S.

### Stress Straight Sex

"Around 45 percent of those diagnosed with HIV in the U.K. are heterosexual," said an ACT UP spokesperson. "We would ask [letter writers] to stress the developments of the heterosexual epidemic, independent of IV-drug use, in the U.S. and to point out the responsibility of the British government to devote money to AIDS treatment research," the spokesperson told *OutWeek*.

Activists are also planning a major demonstration in London in the new year.

Those wishing to write to British government officials can send their letters to: Chief Executive Spenser Haggard, Health Education Authority, Mabledon Place, London WC1; and to Health Minister Virginia Bottomley, Department of Health, Richmond House, Whitehall, London SW1. ▼

## News

# Congress Shelves AIDS Drugs

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON—As members of Congress rushed to complete their work before recessing for the year and sitting down to Thanksgiving dinner, Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC) effectively blocked the passage of a bill which would have set up a long-term program to provide proven AIDS treatment drugs to indigent AIDS and HIV patients with the threat of a filibuster.

Faced with the possibility of a filibuster, the Senate leadership opted to shelve the bill for the session, rather than cross Helms.

"It's unfortunate," stated Tom Sheridan, lobbyist for the Washington-based AIDS Action Council, "because we have a good deal of Republican support for this bill. But we just don't have Jesse, so once again one member out of 100 is blocking AIDS legislation."

The measure, titled the Low Income Treatment Authorization Program (LITAP), would set up a three-year authorization program to provide matching grants to participating states for the provision of AIDS drugs to patients not qualifying for state Medicaid programs. The measure is intended to end the funding crisis reached each year because the current federal AIDS drug subsidy program has never formally been authorized by Congress.

As part of the 1990 Health and Human Services appropriations bill, signed by President George Bush Nov. 21, there is currently a \$30 million line item to continue the drug subsidy program for the coming year. ▼

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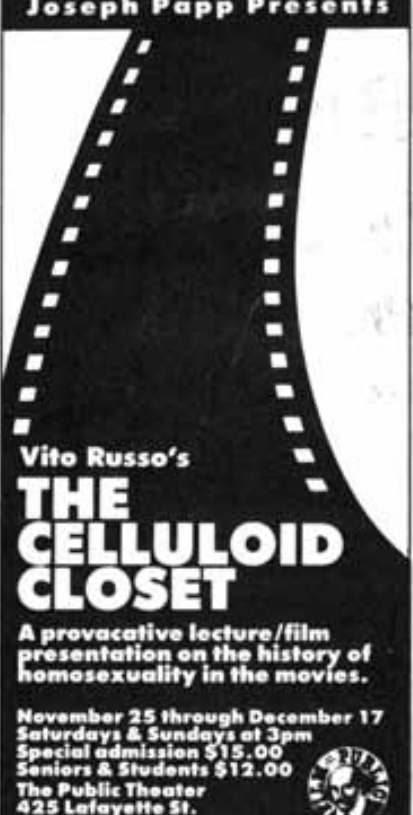
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## News

# SF Lesbians First in Joint Adoption

by M.J. Murphy

SAN FRANCISCO—A Bay Area lesbian couple has won the right to jointly adopt a child they raised for over two years. Although the case set no legal precedent, the ground-breaking decision marks the first time that a lesbian couple has won a joint adoption case, and the outcome could instigate policy changes at social service agencies across the nation.

Gay men and lesbians involved in domestic relationships have successfully adopted children as individuals in the past in many parts of the country, but this is the first time that two women have been awarded joint custody of a child.

An Alameda County Superior Court judge overruled a negative recommendation from the state Department of Social Services (DSS) and allowed Millie Jessen, 38, and Sue Pavlik, 31, to legally adopt two-year-old Eric, a child born with HIV infection.

Eric was initially placed in the foster care of Pavlik and Jessen when he was released from the hospital at the age of five weeks. His natural mother died of AIDS and his father was unable to care for him. The couple filed papers to legally adopt the boy shortly after his arrival.

According to the couple's attorney, Roberta Achtenberg, director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR), the judge agreed with her argument that Eric had bonded with the couple since his placement in their home, and that the child's best interest would be served by allowing Pavlik and Jessen to legally adopt him.

"The department's policy is to make automatic negative recommendations if an unmarried couple tries to adopt a child jointly," Achtenberg said at a press conference held on November 14. "They don't approve or disapprove adoptions. They can only make recommenda-



Achtenberg, Pavlik and Jessen with Eric

Photo: Darlene/Photographics

tions to the court."

"The policy of DDS is irrational and wasteful. We would like to see cases decided on their individual merits instead of marital status."

"He is a child who needed love," Pavlik told reporters. "That's what we saw. He needed to be cared for. Granted it takes extra care, but the rewards go way beyond that. We just loved him

from the time he came into our home."

"There is no reason why kids like Eric should not be able to find love and affection in good homes like Millie and Sue's. Good homes come in all different sizes and shapes," attorney Achtenberg said. "They can be lesbian or gay, straight homes, or multiracial homes. But if they're good

See ADOPTION on page 68

## Anti-Gay Texas Judge Censured

by Rex Wockner

DALLAS—The judge who told the media last December that he gave a murderer a lighter sentence because the victims were "queers" was publicly censured Nov. 27 by the Texas State Commission on Judicial Conduct.

On Dec. 15, 1988, following the sentencing of 18-year-old Richard Lee Bednarski to 30 years in prison for the homophobic murders of Tommy Lee Trimble, 34, and John Lloyd Griffin, 27, District Court Judge Morris Jackson Hampton told a reporter for

the *Dallas Times Herald*:

"These two gays that got killed wouldn't have been killed if they hadn't been cruising the streets picking up teenage boys. I don't much care for queers cruising the streets picking up teenage boys. I've got a teenage boy.... Some murder victims are less innocent in their deaths than others. In those cases, a defendant is unlikely to deserve a maximum sentence.... I put prostitutes and gays at about the same level. If these boys had picked up two prostitutes and taken them to

the woods and killed them, I'd consider that a similar case."

In censuring Hampton, the state wrote that his comments had been "destructive of public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary [because] the public reacted to this judge's comments with disbelief, abhorrence and indignation. The hostility and distrust generated by this judge's irresponsible statements," the state continued, "created an additional burden for the entire judiciary."

The censure was praised by New York's Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, which spearheaded a successful national letter-writing campaign to the Commission on Judicial Conduct, decrying the judge's statements. Executive Director Craig Davidson said "it demonstrates that, in the eyes of the court system, a gay life is worth just as much as a straight life."

But the president of the Dallas Gay Alliance, William Waybourn, called the censure "merely a slap on the wrist."

"We're going to continue to push for the removal of Judge Hampton from the bench," Waybourn said, "If he's been found guilty of being biased, why is he still a judge? It's a cloud hanging over the entire Texas judiciary."

In a statement to the press, Hampton's lawyers specifically blamed the Dallas Gay Alliance and the American Civil Liberties Union for Hampton's censure, charging that the commission "must have succumbed to pressure from...uninformed special interest groups."

Bednarski murdered Trimble and Griffin last Nov. 19 after they picked him up in the cruisy Oak Lawn neighborhood and were forced at gunpoint to drive to a secluded park. Trial testimony showed that Bednarski ordered them to strip and then placed the gun in Trimble's mouth and pulled the trigger.

When Griffin was not killed by the first shot and attempted to crawl away, Bednarski stepped on his leg and pulled the trigger again.

Bednarski will be eligible for parole in 1996. ▼

—filed from Chicago

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## Out Takes

### High school was never like this...

OAK PARK, Illinois—A six-month fight to add protections for gays and lesbians to a suburban Chicago high school anti-discrimination policy continues to escalate this month, as fundamentalist Christians face-off against a united front of community groups and school organizations.

The controversy at Oak Park-River Forest High School began in June when the school board decided to add the phrase "sexual orientation" to its human dignity policy.

Six months and three rewrites later, the Christians remain outraged, while much of the rest of Oak Park has come together to urge the policy's adoption.

Supporters include mainstream churches, city government and a host of school groups such as the Citizens' Advisory Committee, the Parents Human Relations Advisory Committee, the Parent-Teacher Organization, the Faculty Senate and the Student Council.

Both the senior class president and the president of the Student Council have publicly lobbied for the measure, along with about a dozen other students. None of the students said they were gay.

The Christians, meanwhile, staged two postal and newspaper blitzes containing detailed descriptions of homosexual love-making and a list of pro-gay moves they fear will follow the policy's adoption.

Among much else, the Christians anticipate a gay prom, a gay awareness month and a gay studies curriculum.

At the most recent public hearing on the policy, Nov. 16, an estimated 900 persons engaged in four hours of debate.

"One-hundred and fifty-one speakers got one minute each," recalled Mel Wilson, of the Oak Park Lesbian and Gay Organization, "and a lot of them said they were only there because of the hate mail that had

come to their mailboxes. The fundamentalists were isolated and facing a united front of ministers, rabbis, politicians, the National Organization for Women, the League of Women Voters and others."

The school board is again set to vote on the measure Dec. 16. It is expected to pass unanimously, Wilson said, barring any unforeseen blow-ups in the interim.

In the meantime, Wilson says the controversy "has been the best thing to ever happen to Oak Park gays."

"Awareness of sexual orientation as an issue" he said, "both in the high school and in the community, is at an all-time high. There are even several churches running workshops on confronting their own homophobia."

—Rex Wockner

### All artists with AIDS are controversial

NEW YORK—An art exhibition entitled "Images and Words: Artists Respond to AIDS," is scheduled to open at the Henry Street Settlement House on the Lower East Side on December 1 after it had been withdrawn from the gallery by its curator because of a dispute over the display of a banner on the outside of the building. The show has now been reinstated after a compromise was reached to display the banner on a building across Grand Street.

The banner, which carries the words "All People with AIDS are Innocent," was proposed by Gran Fury, an artists' collective that designs works about AIDS for mass display, including the current "Kissing Doesn't Kill: Greed and Indifference Do" campaign which can be seen on the sides of 40 city buses throughout the five boroughs.

A dispute arose when representatives of the Henry Street Settlement House informed the guest curator, Humberto Chavez, that policy prohib-

ited the hanging of banners on the facade of the building. They then offered to display the banner in the gallery, but Gran Fury refused. "We don't do gallery art that will only be seen by people going into the gallery," Gran Fury member Robert Vazquez told *OutWeek*. "Our work addresses the entire community in the public arena." An extremely busy Chavez was unavailable for comment.

The incident emerged in a gay arts community already angry and tense from a recent fray over the National Endowment for the Arts' threat to defund an exhibit of works about AIDS critical of many U.S. political and religious figures.

Barbara Tate, chief administrator of the Arts for Living Center at the Henry Street Settlement has stated that Henry Street has previously had artworks on the front of the building, but this is the first request she has had for a banner that is considered a piece of artwork, framing the dispute as a matter of art versus advertising.

"Benson and Hedges did a jazz festival and wanted to put banners outside the building and we said no," added Daniel Kronenfeld, executive director of the Settlement. "Once you say yes to one person you have to say yes to everybody."

The Henry Street Settlement is a century-old social service agency with an arts program that takes up ten percent of its \$12 million annual budget.

#### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"There are so many Republicans who are secretly gay and so many gay voters who are secretly Republican. It's like living in a closet with two doors, not just one."

—Michael Caruso, membership chairman of Republicans for Individual Freedoms, a gay Republican political club based in White Plains, at the kickoff of the group's current membership drive, during which Caruso hopes to add 100 new names in as many days to their roster of "several hundred" members throughout the Northeast. —A.M.



Among its programs are a counseling service for people with AIDS and bereavement counseling for children whose parents have died of AIDS.

The arts program at the settlement receives funds from a variety of private and public sources, not including the National Endowment for the Arts. "Images and Words: Artists Respond to AIDS," which received no public financing, will be displayed in the gallery and lounge of the settlement's annex at 466 Grand Street beginning Friday, December 1 and includes works by 47 artists and collectives.

—Keith Miller

## Your day in court

NEW YORK—A statewide association of landlords has asked the State Supreme Court for a permanent injunction against recently hard-won tenant succession rights for lesbian and gay families, and tenant and lesbian/gay activists are asking supporters to attend an upcoming court hearing on the status of the regulations.

Following this year's landmark *Braschi v. Stahl* case, in which the State Court of Appeals ruled that "non-traditional" family members must be treated the same as other family members under New York City's rent control guidelines, the state's Division of Housing and Community Renewal (DHCR) announced similar amendments to statewide rent control and rent stabilization guidelines to take effect immediately.

But the Rent Stabilization Association, a landlord advocacy group, succeeded in nullifying these emergency measures by obtaining a temporary injunction in Albany. This group and others are scheduled to appear before the State Supreme Court on December 7 at a hearing on whether the injunction will be vacated or made permanent.

"We knew the landlords were going to sue," said Michael McKee, member of the New York State Tenant and Housing Coalition, a state membership organization of tenant's rights

advocacy. "But we didn't count on a temporary injunction."

As well as broadening the definition of "family" to include lesbian and gay couples, the announced amendments protect the tenancy of unmarried heterosexuals, and people living as companions with or without sexual or romantic involvement, such as senior citizens who are not related by blood or marriage. The measures also establish a uniform two-year residency requirement for establishing this relationship.

"Landlords like to have vacant apartments so they can advance co-op plans and remove units from rent control," said Tom Duane of Succession-Tenant Unity Coalition and a recent openly gay city council candidate, who said he is confident, in the end, that the State Court of Appeals will support DHCR's decisions.

"We are proud of DHCR," Duane told *OutWeek*, "for [its] far-reaching moves in recognizing the rights of lesbians and gays as tenants." The DHCR sets policy and regulations affecting succession and other issues for the 150,000 rent controlled and the over one million rent stabilized households statewide.

The hearing is on Thursday, December 7th at 9:30 am in State Supreme Court, 60 Centre Street in Manhattan, in room 116 on the first floor.

—Rick Sugden

## The hand-writing is on the wall

LOS ANGELES—Charges of graffiti vandalism against three AIDS activists were dismissed by the city attorney on Nov. 14, due to insufficient evidence in the case.

The graffiti, which was critical of the Board of Supervisors' response to the AIDS crisis, and which appeared on several city government buildings, including the department of health, sparked a massive investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Attorney Marilee Marshall, who represented the accused, claimed that

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## 'Out Takes

the identification of the three men as the perpetrators was extremely questionable. All of the witnesses in the case were employees of the county, and they identified the three men from video tapes of an ACT UP/Los Angeles civil disobedience action at

the office of the Board of Supervisors, according to Marshall.

The police investigation resulted in charges of harassment against the Sheriff's Department by members of ACT UP. In a letter to Sheriff Sherman Block, the American Civil Liberties

Union of Southern California accused the police of illegal surveillance and harassment, and made a formal request for all police records concerning ACT UP and its members.

Although the Sheriff's Department responded by making available over



Photo: Darlene/Photographics

**SAN FRANCISCO**—Several hundred people marched from the Castro to city hall on the eve of November 27 to commemorate the 1978 assassinations of San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and openly gay Supervisor Harvey Milk, and to listen to speeches by his successor, Supervisor Harry Britt and others.

In marked contrast to the 15,000 who gathered last year, the small group walked to the rhythm of a single drum beat, carrying candles, placards and, for many, fond memories of the inimitable style of Harvey Milk who was affectionately known as the "Mayor of Castro Street."

Members of Boy with Arms Akimbo, a collective of artists and AIDS activists (pictured above listening to Britt's speech), carried placards connecting New York's Stonewall Rebellion, the riots in San Francisco following the acquittal of Supervisor Dan White for the murder of Milk and this year's police violence in the Castro following an ACT UP demonstration.

"This is a time to focus on the possibilities that Harvey left with us," Municipal Court Judge Mary Morgan told the

crowd on the steps at City Hall, "Harvey opened so many doors, particularly for young lesbians and gay men to follow in his footsteps."

"Such a crazy guy from New York," reminisced old-time Milk friend and successor Supervisor Harry Britt, "So hard headed and he had so little respect for respectability. But he could reach out and put his arm around a whole community and say to us, 'I really like you. I really see something in you that's great. And I want so much for the rest of the world to see that too, so they can come to respect the wonder and power of lesbian and gay lives.'"

"The spirit of Harvey Milk is the spirit that controls the future of the society in which you and I live," Britt continued. "We have to believe that and we have to make it happen. Harvey's deepest wish for his people was that we put away all of those strategies that try to make people like us by being good, and replace them with strategies to make people respect us because we are strong."

—M.J. Murphy

200 photographs, five videotapes and other documents, the police refused to release all the records involved, the legality of which was contested by the ACLU.

The released documents revealed that the Sheriff's Department also photographed members of the gay and lesbian press, including a reporter for the *Advocate* and a journalist and photographer from *The News*, a local weekly newspaper, while they were covering an ACT UP news conference. Other non-gay reporters were also photographed, including one from the *Los Angeles Times*, according to Davidson.

—Sandy Dwyer

## Insurance assurance

WASHINGTON—After days in intense negotiation and partisan bickering over the failed capital gains tax cut, Congress went home for the holidays in the early morning hours of Nov. 22 having finally passed a budget reconciliation bill which reinstates some, but not all AIDS dollars cut in October by the automatic Gramm-Rudman budget axe, and contains a key provision allowing former employees to retain their group health insurance for up to 29 months.

The bill will now supercede the automatic across-the-board budget cuts which went into effect Oct. 15 when Congress had not yet passed a budget reduction bill by the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings deadline.

Previously, most AIDS spending had been exempted from the budget cuts. This year, however, they were subjected to the same automatic five percent reductions as were most all other federal programs, resulting in an \$80 million cut from 1990's \$1.6 billion AIDS budget.

But the bill also provides for the extension of the time period, during which former employees may be covered by their group health insurance programs, from 18 to 29 months.

The provision will allow recently-unemployed AIDS patients to contin-

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# Out Takes

ue to purchase group health insurance during the two-year period they must wait to qualify for Medicare disability benefits.

Previously, people with AIDS who left their jobs because of illness could pay their own insurance and retain their group coverage for only up to 18 months. But because Medicare recipients must be officially dis-

abled for a minimum of two years—six months longer than they were previously able to maintain their group health insurance—many were forced into the low-income Medicaid programs, or found themselves without any health coverage at all.

With the new extensions, they may retain their insurance for 29 months and go from the group plan directly into Medicare programs.

Jeff Levi, Washington lobbyist for the Gay Men's Health Crisis, termed the legislation "major," saying, "To some degree this resolves the problem," Levi added, "Obviously, the affordability of the premiums for someone who is out of work remains an issue, but that is different from having no access to insurance at all."

—Cliff O'Neill

## Obituary

### Kevin Sutton

Kevin Sutton, a resident of New York City, died of AIDS at Cabrini Medical Center on November 28, 1989, following a brief hospitalization. He was 27 years old.

A native of Rogers, Arkansas, Kevin later received a B.A. with honors in Art History from Brown University, in 1984. Following his graduation, Kevin moved to Paris and there worked for designers Yves St. Laurent and Renata.

For the past four years, Kevin served in many positions in the fashion industry at Tous Les Calecons, The Aubry Company and Springers.

Funeral services were held November 30 in Rogers, Arkansas. A memorial service is being held Dec. 6, 8 pm, at a private apartment, 51 West 19th Street, 4th floor, and is open to all those who knew Kevin.

Kevin is survived by his parents of Rogers, Arkansas and his brother Thomas of Philadelphia. Those wishing to honor Kevin's memory are urged to contribute to ACT UP/New York or GMHC. ▼

## Stop the Church, I want to get off

NEW YORK—On December 10th, at 9:30 am, St. Patrick's Cathedral may well be swamped with demonstrators, police and parishioners in what is expected to be the largest protest against the Roman Catholic church ever in New York City.

ACT UP/New York and the Women's Health Action Mobilization (WHAM), a direct-action committee of the Reproductive Rights Coalition, will stage the massive demonstration, which spokespeople predict will attract at least 5,000 protesters. According to the groups' flyers, they are staging the action "to draw attention to the political activities and lethal policies of John Cardinal O'Connor [Archbishop of New York] and the church."

The activist groups say the issues are the church's refusal to offer safer-sex education, to support a woman's right to abortion, to condemn homo-

phobia and violence against gays and lesbians and to allow the use of condoms and a clean-needle exchange program for intravenous drug users.

"What we are talking about here," said WHAM member Stacey Mink, "is who is going to tell you what to do with *your* body. I have control over my body and I make the choices, not the church." Mink said that both abortion rights and access to condoms and safer-sex information are issues of freedom of choice and the right to control one's own body.

Members in both groups have expressed concern that the protest not be misconstrued as against the parishioners. "We are not attacking Catholics," clarified Mink, "we are attacking the church hierarchy and the Cardinal." Mink says a leaflet stating the groups' support of freedom of worship will be handed out on the day of the protest at St. Patrick's. "We want Catholics to understand that their church makes policy that affects members and non-members in a murderous way," Mink said.

For more information, call ACT UP at (212) 989-1114 or WHAM at (212) 713-5966.

—Rick Sugden

## Lawyers on the law

WASHINGTON—Representatives of more than 150 law schools which are members of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) will vote January 6 on a Bylaws amendment proposed by the Association's Executive Committee to require all member law schools to adopt policies banning discrimination in admissions, personnel and placement policies on the basis of disability and sexual orientation, according to a memorandum from Betsy Levin, the executive director of the Association, which was sent to all member law school deans last week.

The vote will occur in San Francisco during the Association's annual

See OUT TAKES on page 71

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# I Remember Harvey

by M.J. Murphy

In 1974 when Elaine Noble, an avowed lesbian, was elected to the Massachusetts State House of Representatives she became the first openly gay official elected to a public office in the United States. Thereafter, a parade of gay politicians and celebrities climbed out of their

closets and marched down the main streets of Everytown U.S.A. in full public view. San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk was probably the loudest and best known of them all.

I lived in a big closet in Chicago back in November of 1977, but somehow I found Harvey Milk on a newspaper page buried deep somewhere in the first section. He had been elected to the Board of Supervisors in San Francisco and, because he was gay, it made national news.

The United States was really hoping that year. Anita Bryant, the orange juice queen, was leading a campaign to repeal a gay rights ordinance in Dade County, Florida. She had collected tens of thousands of signatures on petitions to bring the ordinance to the voters again, and she had become a national media star during the course of the campaign. Her photograph appeared on the cover of *Newsweek* magazine and inside were lengthy descriptions of the blossoming gay rights movement, gay lifestyles, gay relationships and more gay news than I'd ever seen in a publication.

I began reading about Harvey Milk and Anita Bryant with more than just a passing interest. I was gobbling up every word, key phrase, image and photograph I could digest about the growing gay movement. It was the beginning of the end to my post collegiate what-am-I-doing, where-am-I-going state of confusion blues. I was finally finding the courage to come out as a lesbian and in some way I felt that Harvey Milk understood my struggle. Maybe I wasn't that kid from Altoona, Pennsylvania that he used to talk about, but we sure had a lot in common.

Many of us were disco maniacs back in 1978, and I was no exception. Sylvester's "Don't Stop," Donna Summer's "On the Radio" and "We are Family" by Sister Sledge were the big hits downtown at The Bistro where I danced my heart out while waiting for that first big kiss, that first quivering moment with some wonderful woman.

In his biography of Harvey, author Randy Shilts



Harvey and constituents at 1978 Castro St. Fair, which he founded.

Photo: Rink



points out that after the Dade County gay rights ordinance was repealed by a vote of more than two-to-one, Harvey wrote in his column in *The Bay Area Reporter*, "No matter which way the vote in Florida went, we won. The word 'homosexual' has now appeared in every household in the country. More good and bad was

"It means hope and we—no—you and you and you and yes, you. You've got to give people hope."

I will never forget Harvey Milk or the pride that he inspired in me. I'll never forget that terrifying day that he and George Moscone were murdered. Or the anger and rage that



**Moscone and Milk at 1977 inauguration, SF City Hall**

Photo: Rink

probably written about it in the last few months than in the entire history of the world. Anita Bryant herself pushed the gay movement ahead and the subject can never be pushed back into darkness."

Supervisor Harvey Milk continued to push forward in San Francisco and in speeches he was invited to give around the country as an elected gay official. One of those speeches, dubbed "The Hope Speech," originated during his campaign for office, but continued to be a recurring theme throughout his short service to the community.

"I'll never forget what it was like coming out," he said. "I'll never forget the looks on the faces of those who have lost hope, whether it be young gays, or seniors, or Blacks looking for that almost-impossible-to-find job, or Latinos trying to explain their problems and aspirations in tongue that's foreign to them."

"No. It's not my election I want. It's yours. It will mean that a green light is lit that says to all who feel lost and disenfranchised that you can now go forward.

inspired hundreds of gays to riot and smash windows at City Hall on the night of Dan White's sentence for manslaughter.

Ten years after the assassination, over 15,000 people marched to those same steps of City Hall in San Francisco to commemorate the anniversary of their tragic deaths. This year the quiet crowd that gathered there was considerably less in numbers, but no less in feeling and commitment.

"He cried for us. He was prepared to die for us," Milk's friend and successor Sup. Harry Britt told the crowd. "He gave his life as a talented and brilliant human being so that we might be free."

On a tape marked "IN CASE" that Harvey Milk recorded just after his election, he spoke of the danger he sensed he was in because of his outspoken views. After naming possible successors in the event of his death, he recorded, "If a bullet should enter my brain, let that bullet destroy every closet door."

I can hear the hinges popping now. ▼

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# Positively Scandalous

by Ray Navarro

**T**ransformation through information" is the sub-text of *Positively Healthy*, the newsletter published in London by a coalition of AIDS activists bearing the same name. Co-edited by former Heaven nightclub manager Cass Mann and gay historian Stuart Marshall, with PWA activist Michael Callen acting as New York correspondent, *Positively Healthy* exemplifies the Action=Life agenda in the struggle to publish the latest news about AIDS treatments, HIV infection and "complementary" (holistic) medicine.

Wrongly criticized as being unfairly hostile to western science, co-editor Stuart Marshall defends the newsletter's position as being critical of all approaches toward AIDS treatment, both alternative and mainstream. "Unfortunately we've been cast in the role of being against western science. However, our position is to doubt all experts, that is to doubt both western and alternative treatments," Marshall states, "In England... 25 percent of AIDS related deaths are the result of aetogenic admissions—that is—fuck-ups caused by maltreatment and misdiagnosis beforehand on the part of hospital staff."

In this social context, aerosolized pentamidine is still unavailable in

England and the gay rights struggle takes place against a backdrop of Clause 28 (a recent act of Parliament outlawing any representation of homosexuality in the media). *Positively Healthy* is dedicated to offering workshops on nutrition, spirituality and complementary medicine in the face of widespread misinformation. Sitting down with their newsletter, a reader

An update on candidiasis (thrush) sits comfortably next to Wall Street gossip about Burroughs-Wellcome stockholders taking a loss in the market. *Positively Healthy* brings the critical component of alternative medicine to the foreground—the hostility of western science to holistic approaches is deeply seated in complementary medicine's critique of the poisonous

power structures supported by the "scientific paradigm."

Marshall shows me a few gentle burn marks on his hand. He is involved in a process known as moxibustion, in which a Japanese herb is burned onto pressure points across the body in order to speed the healing process. In the same breath he comments, "One of the problems with socialized medicine in England is that people are very undemanding of the system. They have come to think of health care as their right, and do not question medical authority." The type of information that *Positively Healthy* offers is seen as a threat, but not only because it contests AZT's claims

to be the "magic bullet" of AIDS treatments. Among other things, it has published the Claude Bernard study from France which questioned AZT's effectiveness in HIV positives after 16-24 weeks (after which it may in fact break down CD4), as well as information about AZT's carcinogenic characteristics (it was found to be more dan-



## POSITIVELY HEALTHY

ISSUES No. 4 and 5      SEPTEMBER 1989

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There are many reasons why western medicine is wrong.

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At one of our recent seminars, a young man told us of his experience with a doctor at one of our clinics leading him to a doctor who told him that he had AIDS. He was told that he had AIDS after his seventeenth birthday. He asked this doctor what he should do. He was told to get a job.

The doctor replied: "Tell them you can't be alive for your eighteenth birthday."

The same young man is now in jail.

I understand there were 100,000 people who died in 1988.

This should mean is, regardless, not the exception we thought it might be a case, in which the doctor is responsible for the death of the patient. In fact, the doctor is responsible for the death of the patient. In fact, the doctor is responsible for the death of the patient.

One of the most interesting articles we have ever read is published in Capitalism & Socialism column on 26 July 1988, a scientific study by a British physician, who found that the death rate of AIDS patients is higher than the death rate of AIDS patients who are not treated with AZT.

The figures show that from San Francisco's largest cohort studies that in any more, 50% of AIDS patients have died before 10 years of infection and at that time, whether 25% are still with the virus, the death rate of the AIDS patients is higher than the death rate of AIDS patients who are not treated with AZT.

More people are dying today than in the past because of the drugs they take.

At one of our recent seminars, a young man told us of his experience with a doctor at one of our clinics leading him to a doctor who told him that he had AIDS. He was told that he had AIDS after his seventeenth birthday. He asked this doctor what he should do. He was told to get a job.

The doctor replied: "Tell them you can't be alive for your eighteenth birthday."

The same young man is now in jail.

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This should mean is, regardless, not the exception we thought it might be a case, in which the doctor is responsible for the death of the patient. In fact, the doctor is responsible for the death of the patient. In fact, the doctor is responsible for the death of the patient.

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is struck by the thoroughly critical position it presents. This is not all about brown rice and bare feet. In the same issue one finds an interview with Joe Sonnabend, research scientist and co-founder of AmFAR, conducted by the editors, and HIV critic Jad Adams interviewing Mr. HIV himself, Robert Gallo, research scientist at the NIH.

gerous than the carcinogen used as a control in a recent independent study). Publishing this information has not created a "party line" with respect to AZT. Some 75 percent of the group's members are HIV positive, and 33 percent of those have chosen to take AZT. The emphasis is on an informed choice.

More to the point is the threat that holistics poses to the economic status quo of socialized medicine's bureaucratic smooth-running machine. Marshall states that, "...in 1992 all the frontiers go down in the European community [in the common market]...We'll have enormous changes in the way business is conducted...for example, in France homeopathy is illegal, and you can only buy vitamins and minerals in authorized pharmacies. In England, the medical profession will try to rationalize the logic of the European Common Market by making it into English Law." Under these conditions, folk medicine will be forced to undergo the same drug approval process as, say, the still unapproved aerosolized pentamidine. One current campaign against holistic alternatives is the so-called "Campaign Against Health Care Fraud," led by none other than a conventional cancer specialist and a nutritionist.

One should note that attacks upon groups such as *Positively Healthy* are politically motivated. The already precarious position of individual practitioners of holistics make them a prime target for those who would defend western medicine's "divine logic" of profit motive medicine. Notes from the underground, such as the *Positively Healthy* newsletter, further the status of complementary medicines, transforming them from being merely alternative to becoming oppositional. ▼

To subscribe, send £8.00 for six issues to: *Positively Healthy*, P.O. Box 71 Richmond; Surrey, TW9 3D7 England, or phone: 01.940.5355



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# GMHC

## GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS



# CONTROL of out

## Commentary by Susie Day

Dear Mr. President,

I bet you think that this letter is going to be about El Salvador. I bet you're saying to yourself, "Christ. Another letter from a lesbian. They're always s'darn strident and anti-war about things. Everyone knows that lesbians can't have children, so they try to adopt the Third World. No doubt this is one of those whining lesbian letters about ending U.S. military involvement in El Salvador."

Well, you're wrong, Mr. President. Deeply wrong. For, although I am a lesbian, this letter is not about El Salvador. Please do not assume that all lesbians and gay men are peace activists; this is an offensive, heterosexist stereotype. Many of us are, in fact, mature, sophisticated political leaders, who are firmly committed to gaining equal rights at every level of society. This includes equal rights in the U.S. Armed Forces. Therefore, if I, a mature sophisticated lesbian of today, were to say to you, my president:

**\*STOP U.S. aid to the repressive, right-wing government of El Salvador**

**\*TAKE BACK the \$85 million you've already designated for weapons and ammunition in the current fiscal year**

**\*DON'T SEND El Salvador any more money or advisors or bombs that have already killed over 1,200**

children and women and men in the last few weeks alone—

I would be employing tired rhetoric to tamper with your First Amendment right as a president to ex-



press yourself, using armed intervention. I would also be guilty of whining. And I, as an *au moderne* lesbian activist of the 1980s, never whine. Today, when I experience discrimination as a lesbian, I call all my gay activist friends together, and we hold mature, sophisticated conferences; we strategize effective legal campaigns;

we write cogent articles. Clearly, Mr. President, we have done a lot of growing up in the last nine years.

*So why won't you let us lesbian and gay men into the military? We'll be good. We promise. Please?*

It took me a long time to reach this level of maturity and sophistication. During the 70s, I must admit, I personified the downwardly-mobile stereotype of the typical lesbian peacemaker. I knew all the verses to "Blowin' in the Wind"; I had a crush on Joan Baez; I prayed on Gandhi's birthday. I actually thought there was something "wrong" with me for being a regularly voting citizen in the world's most militarily oppressive democracy. And when politicians from other countries called me an "imperialist dog," I wept.

Then Ronald Reagan was elected president, and I began to re-think my place in the world. I saw that white North Americans were systematically disparaged by communists in Third World liberation struggles. I got in touch with how really validated and whole you can feel as a human being, when you internalize the fact that your country can perpetrate any number of invasions, coups, bombings and harbor minings, and successfully evade international justice every time. Finally, I developed a deep sense of Imperialist Dog Pride. Take *that*, Qadafi!

Yet, as I became more politically mature and sophisticated, I also saw that gays and lesbians with exemplary military records were being thrown out of the Armed Forces, simply because of their sexual orientation. And I was outraged. So I hope you will see why this letter is not about El Salvador, Mr. President; this letter is about real social injustice! Compared to gays being discriminated against in the U.S. military, 1,200 civilian deaths in El Salvador is *nada*. (That's campesino for "nothing," Mr. President.)

History has shown that, given a chance, lesbians and gays are just as

capable of defending our country as our heterosexual counterparts—and we can be just as indifferent to the wholesale devastation of native peoples and cultures, too. You don't have to worry about our being security risks, Mr. President; not when we are primarily concerned with equal rights. Why, for instance, should gay people care about a few hundred patriarchal, nuclear family units being torn apart in El Salvador, when lesbians and gays don't have the right to be legally married in the United States? It's all a matter of priorities. Besides. Have you ever heard of a gay Salvadoran?

So how could this letter possibly be about El Salvador? It's just that gays and lesbians want to be included in a progressive fighting force that has already opened its armed arms to people of all races and both sexes. One of the best arguments I can think of for U.S. military domination of the planet is that our government teaches its disadvantaged youth valuable skills in decimating whole populations, at the same time it gives them free health care. Why, my own dad went into the army in the 40s because he needed food and clothes and an education. You may think it ironic, but I find it a source of great pride, Mr. President, that I, as a no-frills, right-on dyke, could be the indirect result of a G.I. Loan.

So forget about El Salvador; homophobia hurts everyone, Mr. President. We, as lesbian and gay activists of the 80s, simply want equal rights. We want equal rights to bomb and strafe and pillage and rape and humiliate and do kinky things with bayonets, just like you normal people do. We want the right to hole up in Third World luxury hotels with the Green Berets and order room service on the CIA's tab. Help us to help you make the developing world safe for right-wing death squads. Please, Mr. President. We look *real* good in uniform. Just give us a chance to serve our country. It will be as if El Salvador never existed. ▼

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# Political Science

## Big Brother is Watching You

by Mark Harrington

*"As it is designed, parallel track will not work. What was actually put in place is an invitation to disaster. It will prevent us from finding drugs that will help people."*

—Douglas Richman, M.D.  
AIDS Clinical Trials Unit (ACTU)  
Principal Investigator (PI)  
Univ. of California, San Diego  
*The New York Times*, 11.21.89

*"I was quoted out of context."*  
—Douglas Richman, M.D.  
Bethesda, MD, 11.21.89

Every nation has its *Prauda*, its citadel of disinformation, whence official falsehoods are dispensed with a *noblesse d'oblige* so bland many citizens are grateful to have their thinking done for them, conventional wisdom pre-packaged for just pennies a day. No one has worked harder during this shameful decade to propagate the lethal fiction that all is well in an America blighted by the four horsemen of our viral apocalypse—bureaucracy, greed, homophobia and racism—than our own

*Prauda*, *The New York Times*.

Thus it was no surprise when, on November 21, the *Times* published an unfounded, premature, dogmatic, biased and inept attack on the right of people with AIDS to obtain treatments outside of government-sponsored controlled clinical trials. The article proceeded, with the flimsiest of evidence, to attack the Parallel Track program even though the ddI trials have been underway for just six weeks—far too soon to judge how expanded access will affect enrollment. I will bracket to the sidebar just how many ways Gina Kolata was wrong and leave to others to document just how shoddy was her "research" (Jim Eigo's letter to *Times* editors sums up the key points [Xeroxed, page 9]).

What are the motives for collusion between the U.S. biomedical establishment and the established print media? Both of them share an instinctive antipathy to the fundamental demand raised by people with AIDS during the epidemic—the demand for autonomy to make their own treatment decisions and to question the hitherto unquestioned authority of academic medicine and mass media alike. Larry Corey, of the University of

Seattle, who chairs the ACTG Executive Committee, said last week that he views the AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) as "a giant combine cutting a swathe through the field of AIDS."

With its present policies, the ACTG may more aptly be considered a combine cutting a swathe through the people with AIDS themselves. At the ACTG Primary Infection Committee (i.e., the "HIV Committee") on Wednesday, November 8, chairman Thomas Merigan, M.D., of Stanford, architect of the ACTG system and purveyor of ddC, lamented:

**The Treatment IND for ddI is drawing patients away from our trials. There is a temptation for our patients to leave the program—an unfortunate loss... We're going to monitor on a monthly basis the comparative accruals in the ddI studies and expanded access. We're going to look at enrollment by zip code "catchment areas." We may need to use this information to argue against the use of Treatment INDs at the start of Phase II—after all we're the people most affected by it.**

Like the researchers he manipulates, Merigan seems to be suffering from a delusion that the ddI Treatment IND affects him more than it af-

### 12 Reasons Why the *Times* is on the Wrong Track

- 1) AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) enrollment has always been shockingly low.
- 2) According to one NIAID insider, enrollment into the ddI trials is actually faster than expected.
- 3) The expanded access protocols for ddI are *not* Parallel Track; PT has not been finalized. ddI is available on *Treatment IND* and *Open Safety* protocols, which existed long before Parallel Track.
- 4) The expanded access protocols for ddI opened before the controlled trials, in most places due to ACTG bureaucratic delays, so they are not "parallel."
- 5) ACTG researchers were busy in August with their AZT results from trials 016 and 019. So they didn't begin to focus on the ddI trials until September. By then, it was clear that ddI might be toxic at higher doses.
- 6) The three ACTG ddI protocols were rewritten in September to reflect toxicity fears, and dosages were reduced.
- 7) The dose reduction meant that Bristol-Myers had to relabel thousands of packets of powdered ddI for the trials.
- 8) The new protocols had to be approved by local Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) at the 45 ACTU sites.
- 9) Informed consent forms had to be rewritten and resubmitted to IRBs as well. IRBs usually meet once a month or less.
- 10) ACTU sites failed to screen any of the hundreds of people on their waiting list until the IRBs approved the new protocols.
- 11) Most people getting ddI from expanded access *aren't even eligible* for the controlled trials. Bristol-Myers says only six percent of people applying for expanded access did not meet the criteria, which were designated to admit those ineligible for clinical trials.
- 12) Although it's six months since the ACTG leaked results from its trials 002 and 019, showing that lower doses (500 mg/day) of AZT are safer and just as effective as the high dose used for the last three years, its ddI trials 116 and 117 are still using 1200 mg/day of AZT—an unnecessarily high and toxic dose. This alone is a major disincentive to enroll in their trials.



fects people with AIDS, people with no other treatment options, *people who have suffered high, prolonged and unnecessary toxicity from AZT*, for whom the Treatment IND is designed. Merigan continued:

**There are early signs of a downturn in accrual. Most of our Phase I or II studies are pausing in accrual. The ddC studies are not accumulating many patients. We need to define a window of usage for ddC. In the study of ddC for long-term AZT users, six sites are willing to participate, but only two may accumulate patients—it hasn't opened yet. ddC in AZT intolerant patients may not open in this country—it may have to be done in Europe.**

Merigan is upset about the prospects for ddC trials because he was the principal author of previous studies and the principal investigator of the current ones. Such career advancement, rather than therapeutic benefit to people with AIDS, is the chief motive for the clique of ACTG researchers who consume hundreds of millions of our dollars and wish, concurrently, to deny anyone access to "their drugs" outside of "their trials."

Paul Volberding, principal investigator (PI) of the recently-suspended ACTG 019, is also PI for ACTG 117, the study of AZT vs. ddI in people who have taken AZT for more than 48 weeks. Considering Douglas Richman's discovery that AZT-resistant strains of HIV were found in the blood of each person he measured who had been taking AZT for longer than six months, this trial may well be difficult to fill, Volberding spoke for many researchers when he said:

**We applaud the vigilance of the Primary Infection Core Committee for keeping records on this.**

At least they're finally paying attention to the community. It's about time they were upset about something. Like community-based research, Parallel Track and PWA self-empowerment threaten the hitherto unquestioned monopoly of research academics. Just think—people with AIDS may prefer to obtain new drugs

through their own physicians, who *care for them*, rather than from the clever, federally-sponsored researchers who keep coming out with new ways to use AZT, but can't come up with a single other treatment for AIDS or HIV infection.

And here comes *The New York Times*, leading the charge to protect the career prerogatives of these researchers, not even bothering to ask a person with AIDS for his or her perspective. Kolata's article, and the researchers' fears, came down to the

sentiment voiced by Harvard's Dr. Jerome Groopman:

**If the philosophy is that anyone can decide at any point what drugs he or she wants to take, then you will not be able to do a clinical trial.**

This is flatly untrue. People with life-threatening conditions have the same right to evaluate available information about approved and potential treatments that scientists do. Moreover, they do not have the time sci-

See POLITICAL SCIENCE on page 37

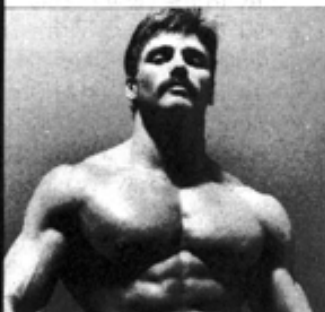


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# GLAAD TIDINGS

GLAAD Tidings is a regular weekly column by the Gay And Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. Its purpose is to help readers identify and directly respond to homophobia in the media and in society.

## Loving Living Color

Homophobic, racist, sexist and anti-Semitic lyrics in rock, heavy metal and rap music have been much in the news recently. Among other media outlets, *The New York Times*, *Rolling Stone* and *Entertainment Tonight* have reported on this growing problem.

Heavy metal groups have gotten much of the attention, with Guns 'n Roses lead singer Axl Rose on record defending derogatory references to faggots in his group's best selling album and Skid Row lead singer Sebastian Bach pictured in *Billboard* wearing a t-shirt that says "AIDS Kills Fags Dead."

Lest we be accused of heavy metal defamation, we want to bring to your attention a refreshing counterexample. *Billboard* reports that at a concert in L.A. featuring the Rolling Stones and Guns 'n Roses, a member of one of the opening acts, Vernon Reid of the group Living Color, said to the audience, which he might reasonably have expected to be unsympathetic to his views:

"If you don't have anything against gay people, don't call them faggots. If you don't have anything against Blacks, don't call them niggers."

Vernon Reid's comment is right to the point. If you don't mean it,

don't say it. "Faggot" is a hate word.

We encourage you to write letters of protest to all the perpetrators mentioned above. But we also urge you to write a congratulatory note to Vernon Reid for his courage in speaking out to the concert audience in L.A.

Write to: Vernon Reid/Living Color, P.O. Box 407, Bushwick Finance Station, Brooklyn, NY 11221.

## Sullivan on Suicide

With role models like quarterback Doug Williams publicly ridiculing faggots, it's no wonder that gay and lesbian teenagers are an emotionally vulnerable group. The special problems of gay youth were recently discussed in a report prepared by the Department of Health and Human Services. Called *Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Youth Suicide*, the document concludes that "gay youth are two to three times more likely to attempt suicide than other young people," and

calls for an end to discrimination against young people on the basis of their sexual orientation.

Proving once again that right wing homophobes are afraid that Americans might be exposed to the truth about gay people, Congressman Dannemeyer of California contacted President Bush and HHS Secretary Louis Sullivan demanding that they reject the portion of the report dealing with gay teens. He made no scientific objection, of course, asserting instead that the report was simply "anti-family."

Because we have come to expect raw bigotry from Congressman Dannemeyer, the real bad news is that Bush and Sullivan seem to be pandering to it. In a letter to Dannemeyer, Sullivan agreed that the views expressed in the report about gay youth run contrary to his and his department's policy of advancing traditional family values. Just how family values might be advanced by gay teen suicides is, of course, never addressed.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force has asked for meetings with the president and Sullivan to discuss this issue. Bush has already declined; preventing suicides by gay youth is not part of his agenda for a kinder, gentler America.

Sullivan has not yet responded, and so we ask you to write him in support of the Task Force's request for a meeting. This is a matter of life and death. He must not allow his own prejudices to keep his head in the sand on the issue.

Write to: Louis W. Sullivan, M.D., Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue S.W., Washington, DC 20201.

—Craig Davidson



HHS Secretary Louis Sullivan

# POLITICAL SCIENCE from page 35

tists have to wait for results from controlled clinical trials.

If people do not enter controlled trials, researchers must consider new ways of conducting them. It was ironic that Kolata's article came out on the second day of a major conference on AIDS clinical trials methodology.

There, statisticians inspired by ACT UP's *National AIDS Treatment Research Agenda* had confirmed that many of the ideas advanced by people with AIDS and AIDS activists did not conflict with the needs of science. Placebos are unnecessary (they haven't been used in cancer trials for decades). Exclusion criteria are too restrictive. Trials should allow new treatments as soon as they become available. People can be in antiretroviral and anti-opportunistic infection trials at the same time.

But the researchers didn't seem to be listening. Their narrow-minded views were summarized by Ellen Cooper of the FDA at the end of the conference, when she criticized the notion that trial subjects could be heterogeneous. What could be more heterogeneous than the range of diseases and conditions attendant upon HIV infection?

This, then, is the fatal blindness of the U.S. regulatory and research establishment, as created by the likes of Ellen Cooper, Dan Hoth, Thomas Merigan, Paul Volberding, Larry Corey, Margaret Fischl, Douglas Richman *et al.*: trials must be *homogenous*. Those who don't fit the inclusion criteria must *wait*. Too bad if some have to *die*—that's *science*!—we've got to find out!—we need your bodies to prove this drug works! That's the only kind of data *peer-reviewed journals accept*! (Not to mention the FDA).

The ACTG is like an enormous, costly, high-tech ocean liner—a *Titanic*—whose officers, smugly confident of their own supreme ability, and blind to the realities of the ocean they are navigating, are steering straight into a massive iceberg—crashing into the very people they are supposed to be serving—the hundreds of thousands of Americans living with HIV. ▼

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STREET PATROL

GOAL at last summer's Gay Pride Parade

# T RUE BLUE

**For Lesbian and Gay Police it's a Struggle Battling Homophobia on the Force and Cop-Phobia in the Community**

**by Michelangelo Signorile**

"If I can't be a civilian at a demonstration then I'd rather work it. I want to be the cop dragging people away rather than there being some straight cop who might have a bad attitude, who might be having a bad day and is thinking, 'I'm cold, I'm tired, I don't want to deal with these fucking faggots.'"

—Police officer Louise Gomez

*The cops.*

The phrase conjures up some bizarre and conflicting feelings. Some queers cringe at the thought, with all sorts of visions—from the horrific to the simply annoying—dancing in their heads. Restroom entrapments. Bar raids. Police brutality. Civil disobedience. Speeding tickets. Ugh!

For others, the mere words increase testosterone and estrogen levels in the body as thoughts turn to nightsticks, badges, sunglasses, leather—uniforms!

But for some gays and lesbians, *the cops* doesn't produce either of these extremes or anything on the spectrum between them. For these people, the phrase means punching in, going to your locker, getting your detail, and covering your beat. It means perhaps seriously risking

your life on a daily basis, and trying to do some good within a system tainted with corruption and homophobia. It means constantly being at odds with many members of your own community who, when they think of cops, envision the enemy.

And it means working within a field that has traditionally viewed gays and lesbians as pariahs when it came to enforcing the law. In fact, our very existence was, at one time, *against* the law. In some states it still is.

New York City, however, is now one of a few places in the country where police officers themselves are protected from losing their jobs if homophobia is involved, and, according to many gay and lesbian officers, these charges are taken very seriously within the department. Such protection is a major advancement, considering that just a little over ten years ago, not one gay man or lesbian on the police force was out of the closet.

That changed in November of 1979, when, testifying before the city council, Sergeant Charles Cochrane became the first member of the New York City Police Department to publicly declare himself gay. A sudden new hero in the community, many thought Cochrane's coming out would sway the city council into passing the gay rights bill that year.

Of course, the council took seven more years to pass the bill.

But almost immediately Cochrane had rattled things up a bit throughout the NYPD. Swooped down on by local, national and international media, he had broken the silence and challenged long-standing prejudices regarding gay and lesbian cops. Three years later, in 1982, Cochrane co-founded, with retired officer Sam Ciccone, the Gay Officer's Action League (GOAL). That June, Ciccone and Cochrane marched in the Gay Pride Parade as GOAL's only members. One year later membership was up to 35. Today there are roughly 300 active members of GOAL and some 2,000 men and women have passed through the organization.

After ten years on the force, Peter Guardino came out by marching with GOAL in the Gay Pride Parade in 1983, knowing that his hetero fellow officers would be lining the parade route (the parade, in fact, is the way that most officers come out within the department). At the age of 42, Guardino has now been out on the job for six years.

"A few people on the job knew that I was," he reflects. "A few suspected, but nothing was ever really made of it. I had a good reputation as a good cop. But like anything else, when you are part of a minority and you do good work, they try to knock you down. I feel I wasn't given choice assignments. When you're not out, you find out things sooner. It got back to me. I figured it'd be better to be out since I could be protected by law.

"Where I work I'm the only so-called gay person. I don't find it too bad, my working conditions. I don't have anything said about me. And in 17 years it's amazing that my name's not appeared on bathroom walls. Being out, it's hard for me to pinpoint homophobia. People kind of hold back comments when I'm around. I don't think I'm treated [by the force] differently than anyone else now. I get along with mostly everyone I work with. Sometimes, some people feel a little uncomfortable, but I think they may sense that I sense something about them—maybe that they're gay or something. I don't have problems with the people who are so-called straight."

At 27, Pedro Velazquez has been a cop for five years.

"I moved here from Puerto Rico in August 1984. I [became a cop] for the benefits. It was the best job I could find. I only had two years of college. Before that I was a jewelry salesman and before that a bookkeeper, but this is much better pay and benefits. I saw the ad in the newspaper and decided to go for it.

"I came out to my first partner and he transferred himself. We were friends, used to go out drinking. I don't know what reason he

gave them for transferring. He couldn't tell them it was because I was gay, but that was it, I'm sure.

"I decided not to lie anymore. When the guys would say, 'look at that ass, look at that cunt,' I wouldn't say anything. Soon they were asking, 'are you married,' and I'd say, 'no, I have a lover.'

"People talk behind your back. They write things on the bathroom walls. But homophobia is all over, not just in the police department."

While many lesbian and gay cops still choose to stay in the closet, many others are out now, realizing that they are legally protected within the department, and also feeling secure that GOAL will help fight their battles. Though they encounter homophobia on a regular basis, and express that they are painfully coming out in one respect or another *every day*, openly gay and lesbian police officers are relatively comfortable in their jobs. They speak of being part of the "family," of being totally accepted and respected by their heterosexual partners and superiors.

In the subculture that is the police department, one has to prove oneself a "good cop." The main criteria for acceptance among police officers is if one performs one's job well," says Patrick Saraci, a civilian clinical psychologist who worked for the NYPD in 1981. "If so, that person will be very well respected." As Saraci explains, a police officer is putting his body on the line, risking his life all the time. He or she wants more than anything to be sure that his/her partner will be there when the bullets start firing. The biggest concern is "being covered."

Though they say they have to prove themselves more than other cops (and though the women are fighting sexism as well as homophobia), lesbian and gay cops claim that once they have proven themselves they are treated no differently than anyone else and wind up developing strong bonds with straight officers within the department. In this sense, they feel they are fighting homophobia within the department, educating fellow officers as well as higher-ups.

"To me, we are proving ourselves continuously," states Louise Gomez, who, after a few years of going in and out of college, and after being an accountant for a while, became a police officer two years ago at the age of 30. "Women in the department really do have to prove themselves even more. I would think very small men have the same problem. It's really strange, because the police profession is really macho. People are not always aware that lesbians are macho. I'm aggressive. I think being a lesbian may actually work toward my benefit in that sense because they perceive a lesbian to be 'not like the typical female' and tougher, maybe. Then again, that could just be me 'cause, see, I don't take shit from anyone."



#### TRUE BLUE

Now retired Sergeant Charlie Cochrane in 1983

Tony is in his early 20s. He's out in the department and has spoken to the press before using his full name. But currently he's under consideration for an assignment which would include undercover work and says he can only speak on condition of anonymity. He lives in Brooklyn, where he grew up as the son of a police officer, in a family with a long line of police officers.

"In my old precinct they would hang stuff on my locker—DOA seals, that's Dead On Arrival, Property of NYPD, DOA stickers. It didn't really affect me. I didn't care. I didn't let it bother me. Cops love to talk. So you just ignore them.

"Once you prove yourself, it's okay. In my new precinct it's great. My lover comes in and the women in the office comment about how cute he is. They like him. I'm able to talk to them about problems. You know, we have the same problems. My lover worries every night when I go to work. He kisses me and tells me to be careful. If



## SETTING THINGS IN MOTION

Community Affairs Officer Vanessa Ferro

Photo: Ellen B. Neipris

I'm making an arrest and I'm late, he doesn't sleep. He stays up all night worrying."

Pepper (not her real name) had become a cop in the early 80s because she felt that working the child-abuse unit would be rewarding. But she left after a few years because of the mounting pressure of homophobia and sexism. As someone who left the force, she tells a somewhat different story.

"I worked in Harlem in the child-abuse unit," she says. "And I was too busy working to be in GOAL or any other group.

"If you're a woman on the job they are uncomfortable with you unless you're dating them or unless you're married. It was weird like that.

"There were times when I saw excessive force being used on people because they were Black or gay. I would protest it by leaving the scene. If I were to make a report or something, my back wouldn't be covered. That means if I go to make an arrest and someone pulls their gun out, [the cops present] wouldn't cover me. It's happened to other people.

"They're even suspicious when you *don't* get involved. If they're making an arrest and they beat someone up because they're gay, and if you don't go and give your little kick, then you're considered not part of the cop family.

"All cops are not homophobes and racists, but I'd say at least 60 percent are. It's part of a whole kind of macho attitude.

"I was called a dyke once or twice. I was given a lot of shitty shifts, strange shifts. You can tell who gets the better shifts, the guys who are part of the good ol' boy network.

"You hear things in the locker room, 'That faggot' or 'that nigger.'"

To say there is no homophobia or racism is a joke.

"I think that police are necessary in this city. [And gays and lesbians] should be on the police force. It's an honorable job if you don't go kicking people's asses and throwing them in jail for no reason."

Many gay cops say the bigger conflict in their lives—bigger than homophobia encountered in the department—is the animosity between the gay and lesbian community and the police department itself.

Historically, the lesbian and gay community and the NYPD have had a terrible relationship. If Stonewall was a turning point, many saw the violent raid only a few years ago of Blues, a Times Square club frequented by gay men of color, as a step backward. On the whole, the community is mixed about whether or not the relationship has improved. "There is much more dialogue now," says Lee Hudson, liaison to Mayor Koch's office. "There are more internal avenues for people to pursue." David Wertheimer of the Lesbian and Gay Anti-Violence agrees: "The relationship between [the community and the NYPD] has evolved significantly over the past ten years. I think that relationship is better than that between gays and police in any other city in the country, including San Francisco."

But Donna Minkowitz, a writer for the *Village Voice* who has covered the lesbian and gay community for the past several years, is in strong disagreement. "The current relationship is disastrous," she opines. "Right now, for instance, you have cops calling people 'faggot' and 'dyke' with impunity, thinking it's okay to do. It's unacceptable." Minkowitz also points to several cases recently in which police arrested the gay or lesbian person being attacked rather than the alleged attackers. One of those of particular note which Minkowitz had written about from the beginning was the case of Joy DiVincenzo, who brought her lover to St. Vincent's Hospital after she'd been raped. DiVincenzo was allegedly verbally and physically abused by St. Vincent's security guards. When police were called in, they arrested DiVincenzo for assault (she was later acquitted upon contemplation of dismissal). "She was arrested after she was called a dyke and beaten up!" exclaims Minkowitz.

Tim Powers of ACT UP, a group which has had many dealings with the police, characterizes the police department as "a system which rewards cops for being racist, sexist and homophobic, putting us in a bad position, in a position where anti-gay bias crimes just aren't taken seriously." He points to an incident at last summer's Wigstock Festival in Tompkins Square Park in which a gay man, Mark Carson, was arrested after he tried to come to the aid of three gay men in drag who were being beaten by several men wielding lacrosse sticks. Carson apparently "tapped" a police officer on the shoulder to call his attention to the gay bashing and was arrested for obstructing governmental administration. Newspaper accounts of the incident reported that the police were still slow to arrest the gay bashers. "I felt the police's attitude at Wigstock, was, like, 'if you dress like that [in drag], you deserve what's coming to you,'" says Powers.

Vinny is 28. He's a police officer who is not fully out of the closet. Even he doesn't know why. "It's a personal thing," he says. "I know it'd be better for me to be out, but I...I just don't know. My partner, and the guys at GOAL and some people on the force know I'm gay, but I'm not out to my higher-ups, my superiors.

"Demonstrations and stuff by gays is a conflict, without a doubt. Inside of me, it bothers me. I'm totally on their side.

"We're assigned to keep the peace, but unfortunately, demonstrators, because of the media, seem to feel they must get themselves attacked by the police. It makes the news. I think it's misconstrued as police brutality. I've been on the side of the protestors before. It's always the demonstrators who provoke the police. I find it embarrassing.

"We had a police officer who had AIDS and was interested in



ACT UP and went to a meeting and was chastised by ACT UP members because he was a cop [this could not be independently confirmed within ACT UP and among its membership]. I can't tell you how mad that made me. How discriminatory. I remember he felt really shitty after that.

"There was a time when the women [members of ACT UP after a City Hall demonstration last March] were illegally strip-searched. It wasn't the police who did it. It was matrons—civilian members of the department. But the media made everyone think it was the police. That's probably why it's hard for me to come out. Because sometimes we make a spectacle of ourselves. Instead of sitting down with us, the gay cops, [ACT UPers] run around demanding."

Many officers become defensive when the topic of the department's relationship with the community is brought up. Almost all whom I spoke with expressed uneasiness at working a demonstration. Many felt that protesters, most of the time, overstep their bounds and that it puts the police in precarious positions. For a gay or lesbian cop covering a demonstration organized and attended by gays and lesbians, that can cause a major internal conflict. Most, but not all, feel their first duty is to being a police officer and preserving the peace, although officer Louise Gomez says that she expresses solidarity with protesters and tries to let them know she's a lesbian. At last March's City Hall ACT UP demo she says she wore a little pink triangle, though wearing anything besides department insignia is against regulation.

Quite a few lesbian and gay cops feel the community is unduly hard on them. They say the community, and particularly the more militant segments of it, attack them all too often, and don't realize that "it's not all the police" who may be overly abusive. They express sadness at what they perceive to be a lack of support from the community, which they find hard to understand. "If you believe in total anarchy, and believe that there shouldn't be a police force, then we can't even have a discussion," states Cochrane. "But if you feel there should be some kind of a police force, then you have to feel that gays and lesbians should be represented on that force. And they should be supported."

"I wanted to be in a position where I could be of service to people. I wanted to be able to help people," says Vanessa Ferro.

In June of this year Ferro became a Community Affairs Officer and the first police department liaison to the lesbian and gay community. She pushed hard for the job, having first applied in early 1987.

"When I came out, I had knowledge of the community affairs division of the police department. I had worked as a community affairs officer in the Bronx, and I had known about the CA division. I knew that the CA division at police plaza had liaisons for different groups—Blacks, Hispanics, Asians, even Europeans. I wondered why there wasn't one for the gay community and I felt that with all the rising needs of the other communities the department was able to respond by assigning a liaison to get the police to meet those needs. So why not the gay community?"

"Every time I opened a gay periodical I would see anti-cop articles and an anti-cop attitude. I felt that gay liaisons, or a group of gay liaisons, would maybe try to turn that around. To find out what the needs are of the gay community and try to change that negative police image."

"Being a cop in the gay community is just as difficult as being gay in the police community. The biggest conflict is being looked at as a traitor by people in the community because I'm a police officer."

Last June, during the dedication of Stonewall Place, Ferro, who'd just taken over her new post, found herself at her first demonstration. It was there that ACT UP had planned to silently protest while Mayor Koch took the podium. But, according to Donna Minkowitz, in a story reported in *OutWeek*, "Ferro, wearing plainclothes, placed her hands

on the chests of ACT UP members and shoved them backwards just as Ed Koch began speaking. The shoving by Ferro and other officers provoked chants from ACT UP."

Ferro maintains that she was merely trying to keep the peace. She also realizes she made a mistake that she's sorry about. "In my situation as a community affairs officer, my priority is to mediate and to try to bring peaceful resolutions to different demonstrations," she explains. "I don't have to take police action or do law enforcement. As a community affairs officer that is not my priority. I try to remain neutral. But I'm human. Sometimes I agree with the protesters and sometimes I agree with the police. [The Stonewall dedication demo] was certainly a conflicting situation for me. I was in the middle of a rushing crowd of demonstrators and had no recourse but to plant my feet on the floor or be trampled. I did not push people, but rather held my ground, and tried to calm people down. That was my first demonstration. I was trying too hard and got caught in the middle. It's a place I won't be caught in again."



**YOUR BEAT OR MINE**

Photo: Ellen B. Neipris

**Officers Peter Guardino and Pedro Velazquez**

In spite of apparent conflicts, Ferro does feel she is making advancements in the department for the lesbian and gay community. "I think I'm changing things in the department. I'm educating the department about what the community is about. Sometimes [my superiors] read about a demonstration, and they'll ask what it's about, they'll ask me what the issues are. I think I've opened up their eyes to the injustices of our city regarding gays."

"I've been called to speak to higher-ups in the department. I go out and actively attend classrooms at the police academy and give sensitivity training. Also at the precinct levels. I have ongoing dialogues with the chief of the department and other higher-up personnel, regarding issues and needs of our community and how the police could respond in a favorable way. Whenever I'm included in anything it is their intention to better the community. They ask me my opinion on certain cases, bias incidents and demonstrations."

"She's in a ridiculous and crazy position," says Tim Powers of ACT UP about Ferro. "She gets hell from both sides. But she's good. She really wants to genuinely know the issues, and really wants to help put things into motion. I respect that."

"I'd like it if people would call me when something happens, or even just to talk about conditions in general," asks Ferro of the community. "It's not all 27,000 police who may be doing bad things, and we, gay and lesbian police, are here for you to come to." ▼

*Vanessa Ferro can be reached at 212-374-5370 and urges all members of the lesbian, gay or any other community to call her with any problems or questions they may have regarding the New York City Police Department.*



JOHN PRESTON

# BEARING WITNESS

**Author, Editor, AIDS Educator  
John Preston Discusses His  
Latest Work, the Anthology  
*Personal Dispatches***

by Sarah Pettit

Photo: Gordon Fiedor

I remember meeting John Preston and suddenly understanding what the *Mr. Benson* brouhaha was about. In 1979, Preston wrote a book by that name which was serialized in *Drummer*. It became a cult classic, with boys across the land slapping, ramming and dressing in time to the author's directives. Preston has the same power of persuasion in person that he has historically maintained in his writing. Piercing eyes, a slow, rolling voice, a certain composure that bespeaks control and talent.

Currently the writer-in-residence at the AIDS Project in

Portland, Maine, he has over the years worn more hats than Elton John: author, co-author and/or editor of over 30 books including the popular s/m porn *Master* series, the adventure tales of Alex Kane, *Franny*, *The Queen of Provincetown* and *Safe Sex*; editor at *The Advocate*; founder of the first gay community center in the states; board member of Maine's Health Foundation and its AIDS Project; sex educator and lecturer; book critic. While unusually dedicated to his dinosaur computer and the cold hinterland of the Vacation State, he does occasionally breach city limits. This time he did so in grand style and was nice enough to cut me in on hot chocolate and a spectacular view of the metropolis.

**Sarah Pettit:** I reread your introduction and prologue to *Personal Dispatches* yesterday, which led me to recall the enormous impact the book had on me the first time I read it, how it haunted my dreams for several nights afterward. I know that people have had strong reactions to the anthology, as several pieces bring up very deep and unresolved arguments in the community. How did you, as an editor, manage to bring these disparate writings together in the context of one book and say, "This is writing about AIDS," without either making them all some way toe the same line or sacrificing the integrity of each piece?

**John Preston:** The pieces were written by a wide range of writers, everyone from icons of gay literature to previously unpublished writers. I think it's inevitable that people are going to review it in terms of the finite articles, but I do think this is a book, in the best sense of the word. In my introduction I talk about how E.J. Graff's piece on the Politano family ("Bring Them Home") was really the beginning of the process. It was a brutally honest piece that reverberated through many people's psyches when it appeared in *Bay Windows*. Although extremely romantic—it pulls one's gut to see such a totally supportive, never abandoning family—it was also honest in the truly corporate sense of the word. One felt the newspaper's honesty, the writer's honesty, the family's honesty. The progression of the disease was described in an unrelenting fashion, but also in an entirely non-manipulative fashion. It allowed me, and

many others, to grasp hold of what was happening in a way that we hadn't before. We had seen "victim" stories before and we'd seen polemic—in the worst and best sense of the word—but I don't think we'd seen this sort of writing. I don't think I was immediately aware of a book, but I did write a few people and ask, "Are you seeing this sort of writing?" That's when I got the first few pieces back and when I realized that something was happening with writing about AIDS.

**SP:** What is really interesting is that most of this new writing was being done outside of the mainstream in small gay "bar rags," if you will. The community had grabbed a hold of any resources it had and used them, transformed them into things that are really very unique. They are playing roles they never did before.

**JP:** There's no question that many gay journals have risen to the cause in ways that I don't think we had any right to expect them to. I was very self-conscious about making sure they were represented, not for the sake of "balance," but simply because I was after the finest writing. I knew some of the finest writing was in *Bay Windows*, *Front Page* in North Carolina and *Update* in San Diego. I am particularly proud to include those in an anthology. Other people may have avoided them for the very reason that they were not prestigious, not metropolitan. What I care about is that each author tried to do his or her best, because ultimately what holds this book together is its sense of first person honesty. The *Publishers Weekly* pre-publication review made note that the drive of each author was to bear witness, and in rereading the book, I was struck by how often that word was used. It's in my stuff, it's in Andrew Holleran's, it's in Scott Tucker's and so on. I think that the unblinking bearing witness binds the book together and is its success.

**SP:** The last ten years have seen the creation of several Holocaust archives, places where survivors of the camps can record their stories. They allow for the viewing of a nightmare in retrospect, from a different space. Wholly different about the present sort of bearing witness is that it's witnessing in the midst of the nightmare. Speaking out in the midst of an event has to hold with it the notion that witnessing can effect change.

**JP:** I come from a very strongly reli-

gious background and find Christianity to be one of the most ludicrously primitive religious. Still, it uses a very rich vocabulary and the word "witness" is not a passive word, it's a very active verb. To "witness" is not simply to make note, not simply to record, although there is power in that. It is to go out and see what is going on. Many of the contributors to this volume are activists, they are doing things that must be done. There's a quote at the beginning of the book, "For some of us must storm the castles. Some define the happening," that I hesitated before using because it seemed to imply a separation of roles. Writing one hand, action on the other. I kept it in because I came to understand that it was a corporate statement; that both must be done and that much of it is done by the same people. We do break those roles over and over.

**SP:** It's maddening to me that something which speaks for so many voices can be ignored. Even though it's published by a mainstream press and has had good reviews from *PW* and *Kirkus*, the traditional veins of reception, it still battles with its own status. Whether this sort of reading ever makes its way into the hands of the white bookreading public is questionable. I don't mean to pronounce a premature judgement on it, but it does seem that we're constantly creating these strong and powerful mementos for ourselves and yet it takes something like the Quilt—square of miles of death memorialized—for our efforts to be acknowledged. There has to be an active denial of voices. It's not just these things are one in many, people are simply not wanting to hear the resonances.

**JP:** I am painfully aware that that's true. I used to do a great deal of college lecturing three years ago when AIDS was a hot, important topic. As a gay man who had sex education credentials and had written a mainstream book on risk reduction through safer sex, I was sought after because the panic-felt overrode their problems with having a gay man speak on anything. I was perceived as someone who had information for the common good. It's of note that I haven't been invited onto a college campus in 18 months.

**SP:** At a time when it's being exposed that straight high school and college-aged students are having a far higher statistical outcome in the crisis than



people were willing to acknowledge...

**JP:** I think the entire society is in a mammoth state of denial and has fallen back on its worst defenses. People have grasped hold of the media overplay of AZT thinking, "Oh, we have the pill so why worry?" They take solace in the comforting words about making AIDS a chronic condition and not a deadly disease. All of which flies smack in the face of reality. It also goes back to the initial, primitive assumption that there are risk groups and only the risk groups need worry about this. In the last weeks the head of the World Health Organization stood up and said, "We're going to lose this battle because of complacency." Giving to AIDS organizations has taken a nosedive. We're no longer able to provide the basic services we used to and the numbers continue to grow. But the complacency is our's too. Recently, there was a report of sudden, drastic increases in anal gonorrhea in Seattle, Washington. That is terrifying. There is an assumption that gay men know all that they need to about safer sex, which is belied by every 19 or 20-year-old I see who tests positive because he committed unsafe acts. The commitment to education about sexuality and sexual behavior needs to be a total, lifelong commitment and it hasn't been.

**SP:** I know from my own experience as a lesbian that that's true. I called up a safe sex hotline looking for information, wanting to know what was permissible and what wasn't. I had a pretty good idea, but wanted to hear it from an "authority." A woman answered the phone and before I got two words out she said, "He'll have to wear a condom." I answered, "Well, he's a she," and it sort of deteriorated from there. It's very frightening because even if you're willing to take the initiative to be educated, there are barriers to education.

**JP:** I wrote a book for NAL called *Safe Sex*. A newspaper in Maine sent a writer to interview me even though I am considered dangerous, or at least exotic beyond belief, by lots of the publishing community in Maine. The guy came in and was visibly upset. He began by saying, "I need to tell you that when your book came into the office it was treated like a dirty joke and this assignment didn't fare much better." He had read the book and said that after he got over his discomfort with the overtly pornographic descriptions, it dawned on him

that it was about saving lives. He added that he was proud to be doing the interview. But, I don't think those moments still occur. The barriers are going up. That doesn't mean we stop. I think the fact that *Personal Dispatches* exists, for example, is a defiant statement by the authors. It says, "This did happen. We have paid attention. We have lived."

**SP:** You must certainly believe in defiant statements and the power of writing. You've written or edited about 20 books, including *Franny*, the *Queen of Provincetown* and the *Master* series. How do you see these different works feeding off one another?

**JP:** The one thing that's very clear to me, and it's hard to explain to other people, is the extent to which these are a whole. I don't feel schizoid about it at all. I want to be totally pretentious and say that it has been a real struggle to be a pornographer in our society and to get any respect for it. I have demanded of myself that I write good pornography and I have also been defiant about the fact that I will be taken seriously as a writer. I have stood by that and have paid dues for that, but I think I have won. I do, however, consider it the great tragedy of my life that I cannot get the stuff published anywhere anymore. At least, not with any iota of dignity that I would demand as a writer.

**SP:** One of the ways that gay writing has been accepted, and I don't think lesbians have been allowed this yet, is by being white, university-educated gay writing. W.H. Auden, Edmund White and David Leavitt are a few names that shoot to mind. They are prized by the mainstream in a way that the vernacular will never be.

**JP:** I think what you're talking about is gay men who are so polished, that they can't be denied by the academe. And let me say that I do admire much of their work, but the love of the academe is extremely seductive. I think I speak to and for an audience that other people don't. My audience is vital to me and the intense populism from I work. One of the things I get from living in Maine is being with that audience.

I just got very angry with the Maine Arts Commission. I discovered that in order to get this grant to work with PWAs, they had to waive my designation as an artist. It turns out that only Maine state artists are eligible for grant money.

So, stupidly, I went through this elaborate process to become a Maine state touring artist and it included having to give a reading to the commission. I read the epilogue to *Franny*, my statement of what it means to be a gay writer. I was halfway through when I realized that this statement was utterly incomprehensible to the group of straight men and women I was addressing. I was really struck by that because a part of me says that literature is specific and that the way to the universal is through the specific. But we're taken so unseriously as gay artists that no one can find the universal in what we're saying. Perhaps, that's our fault. Perhaps, I'm so vernacular that I can never get out of this audience.

I have another small grant from the Maine Arts Commission that allows me to work as the writer in residence at the AIDS Project in Portland. I applied for it and received it under a certain set of assumptions. I can now see they were facile assumptions, although I don't mean to put the commission down on this one. They seemed to believe that fine poetry would come from this grant work, as I would be working with people in the midst of the crisis, people who were suffering in this epidemic. What I found was something close to illiteracy, if not true illiteracy then cultural illiteracy. I was staggered by how few people feel they have the right to write; the extent to which writing has become something for a rare class of people. Rather than working on people's poetry, I was having to help people write letters. The most common request comes from people who are terminal who want to leave a record, a footprint in the sand. When their time comes, they turn to writing even though they've felt totally disenfranchised from writing the rest of their lives.

The first time this happened, it was with a father who desperately wanted to leave behind a letter to his son. He wanted the son to have something that proved that his father had loved him. It was too horrible, too beautiful and too hard to begin with, but was made even more so because the father was 19. I almost needed something like that to prove to me how important writing is. ▼

*John Preston will be reading at the Lesbian and Gay Community Center on December 12 at 8:00 p.m.*

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Coming Soon...

MACTVNY'S

Men of All Colors Together / NY's

RHYTHM  
NATION

Can  
dance  
rhythms  
bring  
men  
and  
women  
(of  
all  
colors)  
together  
?

Warning: Come Prepared  
to DANCE!

Saturday, December 9, 8<sup>00</sup>pm - 1<sup>00</sup>am

135 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Street (2nd floor)  
(between 6th & 7th Avenues)

\$7 members / \$10 non-members  
(CASH BAR / SNACKS)



photo: T.L. Litt

Yet another piece by Gran Fury, the AIDS activist art collective; this one at the corner of Broadway and Houston.

—M.S.



Geraldo's Hair-Raising New Book — Exclusive Sneak Preview

**A Crazy Drug Addict Lunged at Me With a Needle Infected With AIDS!**

"We were filming in a cheap New York drug den, and I was interviewing a skinny, black-eyed addict with AIDS — when suddenly he became enraged by one of my questions and swung his infected needle at my head!" says Geraldo Rivera.

I came to know the addict, dropping his of the needle plunged toward my head, bringing with it years of agony and certain death. But at the last possible moment I raised my hand away — and the damned needle aimed at my head was empty.

That's just one close brush with death told there last Rivera recounted in an upcoming book about his career as a TV reporter. And in an exclusive *ENQUIRER* sneak preview of the book, Geraldo also recalls posing as a big-time drug buyer to make deals with infamous Florida cocaine dealers — a Lebanese street battle and looking to become under the wings of a Vietnamese Army general in Cambodia.

And he tells of a daring interview with Yasser Arafat after the Palestinian leader had just lost a "peace" bid — and of a threat from Charles Manson that Rivera's head would be "put in a basket."

"We friends all used to think that I had a death wish because with every story I always took dangerous chances," says Geraldo.

"My teenage cousin from Arkansas, I just didn't care about my own life."

One of his most terrifying experiences came in 1980 when Geraldo, posing as a cocaine buyer, met with reluctant dealers armed to the teeth with guns and knives.

"I was in a room with the dealer, negotiating a big cocaine purchase, and police were in the next room waiting to burst in after the deal happened," Geraldo told *The ENQUIRER*.

"Everything was going well until the head dealer looked at me and said, 'They've been just like the TV guy Geraldo Rivera.'"

My heart was at my throat as I looked from one face to the next and the eyes of the dealers bore into me. I knew I was on the edge of being blown, every father the cops would be firing at me.

Page 40



**CLOSE CALL:** Geraldo, sitting beside infamous drug user, whom Rivera bloody needle used by addict.



**GERALDO RIVERA**

"I just didn't care about my own life. I only cared about the story."

During that same trip I interviewed Yasser Arafat — even though I'd found out he'd just lost the PLO's fight for leadership in an upcoming TV special I'd done.

During the interview he was surrounded by armed bodyguards. And even when I asked him a question that obviously made him angry, he looked into my eyes and a glimmer of compassion shined in them. I knew he realized I was the man he'd threatened to shoot.

Four days through on, I was sure I was about to be killed on the spot. But instead, he only grinned, looked in his ear and sped away. That interview still gives me chills.

Another mind-boggling interview came in 1980, when Geraldo spoke with Charles Manson in California's San Quentin prison.

I was very aggressive with him and he didn't like it at all," says Rivera. "As I left after the interview he said, 'They mean, I'm going to find someone to put your head in a basket for me.'"

I don't back with the only thing I heard could stop him — another threat. Manson had been sprayed with higher fluid several months before he became notorious. Charles, I said, "If anything happens to me you're going to be a headline."

I haven't heard from him since. "I've also gotten some frightening letters from Susan Washburn after a TV special I did on Sicilians. And that scares me — devil worshippers are so many there's still no body."

"Their letters are from all over the country and threaten me with torture, burning, rape, symbolic and other horrific threats."

Geraldo has been told not to take risks — but his 1987 marriage ended his days of eliciting the truth and the drug den.

"My wife said — and the family we're bleeding to have — are the most important things to me now. But I don't have anything to prove. I've put my ear and on the line more than anybody I know."

ENQUIRER

**I Dodged Mortar Fire in Lebanon — & Charles Manson Threatened My Life**



**GERALDO AMUSED MANSION** during an interview at San Quentin prison. Manson was mad he'd find someone to put Rivera's head in a basket.

to put Rivera's head in a basket. "I was shaking. My pulse was racing and sweat beaded on my forehead. But there was nothing I could do except try to bluff my way through. I pretended to get angry and said, 'Come on, stop wasting my time.' Thank God, they turned their attention to the deal — and when it was over the cops rushed in and arrested them."

"One time in 1979 I was with a film crew in Thailand, waiting for a picture to be shot in the Vietnamese jungle. I was supposed to film a scene of fighting the Vietnamese. When

the picture arrived one was in a body bag because he'd stepped on a mine. I knew we could easily end up the same way — but I had to get the story. I went into Cambodia for three days with our crew member and a guide. And the most terrifying moment came when we ran into a Vietnamese patrol."

"We heard them approaching and ducked down in some bushes. I was trying not to breathe as they passed — so close that we could hear them speaking. I knew that if we were found we too would be in America."

"My heart was racing and my lips trembling as I watched a silent prayer to God."

"Finally they passed out of our sight without spotting us — and I breathed a long sigh of relief."

In 1980 Geraldo filmed battle scenes in bloody Lebanon — and nearly ended up a casualty of that country's civil war.

"It was in a war after we finished filming when suddenly mortar shells began exploding all around us. We ducked — and when I looked up, there was a man walking on the ground a few yards from our car. He'd been hit by shrapnel."

"I'll never forget I ran out of the car toward the wounded man as mortar shells continued to explode around us. He'd been hit in the leg and I took him to safety. Only later did I begin trembling with the

Lest you think that the *National Enquirer*, in whose pages these headlines recently appeared, has finally gone off the deep end, let me assure you that these are actual incidents in the eventful life of journalist-turned-scandalist Geraldo Rivera.

Rivera has also had his nose busted by white supremacist skinheads (on camera), and, according to the *Enquirer*, was ambushed by the Viet Cong in Cambodia. Rivera will tell all in a soon-to-be-released autobiography (volume one of several is my guess).

"I just didn't care about my own life. I only cared about the story," the *Enquirer* quotes Rivera as saying. I know just what he means.

Why, just last week I spent an hour on the phone with the press office at the national headquarters of the Assemblies of God Church in Springfield, Missouri, read the *Native*, covered an ACT UP meeting from start to finish and attended a GMHC press luncheon: pasta salad again.

A reporter's life is truly dangerous. Just wait until I write my life story.

— Andrew Miller

# Social Terrorism

Photos by Erich Conrad



**VERY DODGEY**  
*Donald Gjakarda somewhere or other*



**JESUS, MARY AND MOORE**  
*John Moore at BAM*



**WHO? ME?**  
*Madame Picklewinker at the World*



**WATCH THE BIRDIE**  
*James St. James and Onyx at Red Zone*



**NOT NOW, I HAVE A HEADACHE**  
*Lincoln at the World*



**PAINT BY NUMBERS?**  
*Julian Schnabel at BAM*



**GOOD BOY...SIT**  
Billy Erb at Candyland



**THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME**  
Michael Allg and Sherry Baroness Von Klobner Bernstein at Red Zone



**NO COMMENT**  
The Fashion Plates at Mars



**DRAG RACE**  
Genevive at Mars



**HUSTLE WITH MY MUSCLE**  
East Berlin's Kim at Red Zone



**LOVELY TRANCE**  
Cody Ravioli at Mars





# OUT OF MY HANDS

BY BRADLEY BALL

## Dear Brad:

Something terrible happened and I think I'm going to lose my mind from worrying about it. About two days ago I found out

## Dear Readers:

I have decided that we shall not discuss other people's problems this week. Instead, I wish to tell you about something that happened to me. Circumstances (the details of which are unimportant) compelled me to go by Rockefeller Plaza one day last week. I was feeling almost happy—primarily due to the fresh, sharp Arctic snap in the air which always takes me back to those simpler times in the old country—when I turned the corner at 49th Street and was confronted by that enormous Christmas tree, that fell reminder of the evil season which has more or less officially begun. After allowing myself a few moments of bitter reflection (What manner of human being would shatter a young person's trust so callously and completely? What manner of society conspires so efficiently and relentlessly year after year after year to mock this dark memory?) I realized, with weary resignation, that the time has once again come to put "Operation Bradley" into effect.

For the benefit of those readers who may be unfamiliar with this column, I will explain. (For the rest of you, no explanation should be necessary by now. You know what needs to be done, so go do it. You can always come back later and read the little box on the corner of this page. I'm sure it's very funny.) "Operation Bradley" was started eight years ago as a way to provide relief from the socially enforced "jolliness" of the season and to claim the holidays for ourselves by creating our own special brand of merriment. At its heart, in fact, this "Operation" is really all about *outrage*, which I'm told by my experts is quite essential to the community—however one chooses to construe that term—so there is an aggregate benefit.

First, examine your circle of friends—if you don't have any, make some for the time being (they're only strangers you haven't met yet, if that's possible)—determine who might be in the happiest relationship—or any relationship at all, the quality, as is so often the case these days, hardly matters—and then wreck it. It's that simple. In fact, the operation can be handily executed with just some red construction paper, a pair of scissors,

a jar of library paste and any old magazine (use this one if you want but only after you've read *all* the articles). Even a 25 cent telephone call can do the trick, if placed at the proper time to the proper party.

You may, of course, choose to make it more complicated; I leave elaboration and extravagance entirely up to your discretion. Past participants *have* told me that it's sometimes more fun, and therefore more satisfying, to work in teams. In fact, judging from my readers' responses, the inherent possibilities are so vast that just considering them all is far more entertaining than having to compile a shopping list. One person, for example, wrote to say that before she became involved with "Operation Bradley," she hadn't realized how crammed the month of December was with social functions, each of which presents its own unique and fascinating array of opportunities. "The acts of sending out greeting cards and exchanging gifts have been transcended above dreary season obligations," exclaimed another reader, "now that they have been invested with a larger, and yet subtler, purpose!" "I'd always dreamed of sleeping with my best friend's lover and thanks to 'Operation Bradley' that dream became a reality," said yet one more formerly cheerless person.

And those are but three of the countless, gleeful letters I've received in ever-increasing numbers every year since "Operation Bradley" came into being. I won't even begin to take credit for its abundant success. The concept, of course, was entirely mine but anybody can, and usually does, have a concept. No, it's you, dear readers, who are responsible, through your whole-hearted participation, for making *my* dream become a reality. Bless you all and don't forget to let me know how it goes this year. ▼

## Ten reasons why Cardinal O'Connor is so nasty:

- 1) He's ugly as sin.
- 2) Altar boys just ain't what they used to be.
- 3) Mother Teresa gets more press.
- 4) The pope has a far more colorful array of frocks.
- 5) Not enough fiber in the ecumenical diet.
- 6) Pat Buckley got more kudos at the last AIDS awards benefit.
- 7) CBS-TV refuses to revive "Sermonette."
- 8) There is something up that dress we can't see.
- 9) Ms. Ciccone tops the charts while her namesake gathers dust at Lourdes.
- 10) There already is a St. John.

—The Trinity (Pettit, Blotcher, Signorile)



By Michelangelo Signorile

Is Grace Mirabella insane? Or did she simply attend the *Liz Smith/Daily News School of Lies and Disinformation All For the Sake of Doing Favors For People Who Are Important In the World of Power Mongers*?

I think it's the latter. See, in the current issue of *Mirabella*, Gracie has a little puff piece on the Design Industries Foundation for AIDS (DIFFA), in which it says—BRACE YOURSELVES!—"So while the dollar figures are impressive, increased awareness is one of DIFFA's great accomplishments. Last month, Manhattan socialite Pat Buckley cochaired Skating For Life, a DIFFA benefit that could eventually raise \$1 million for the foundation. It wasn't too long ago that her husband, columnist William F. Buckley, was calling for all HIV-positives to be tattooed, concentration-camp style. AIDS education has come a long way over the last few years, and DIFFA deserves a lion's share of the credit." Oh, really? You mean William F. Buckley has changed? You mean that since Pat is doing AIDS benefits it means that her husband is not homophobic anymore? EARTH TO GRACE...EARTH TO GRACE...COME IN PLEASE. JUST ABOUT A MONTH AND A HALF AGO—TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE BENEFIT—WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY CALLED AIDS A SELF-INFLICTED DISEASE BROUGHT ON BY "SEX-DRIVEN GAYS" AND "DOPE ADDICTS." IT WAS WRITTEN UP FROM HERE TO KINGDOM COME. THERE WAS A PROTEST OUTSIDE

THE BENEFIT. PAT BUCKLEY, IN ALL HER UGLINESS, WAS DRAGGED THROUGH THE MUD ONLY TO WIND UP AS THE LEAD ITEM ON PAGE SIX IN THE NEW YORK POST WITH THE HEADLINE, "THE GAY WAR AGAINST PAT BUCKLEY." But you knew all that, Gracie. This was yet another attempt at white-washing the circumstances and—in line with your good friend Liz Smith (*Daily News*)—making dear old Pat look simply wonderful. It was only two months ago when we said that Pat Buckley's efforts all seemed like a calculated attempt at good public relations for her maniac husband. Some thought this idea kind of far-fetched. But, dear friends, the above *Mirabella* item appears to explain *exactly* what we're talking about.

But let's get back to Liz. Oh, let's! She's been going off the deep end



herself lately, doing outlandish things and making a complete ass of herself. Of course, we love when she makes an ass of herself. It gives us something to write about.

In her *Daily News* column, Liz Smith spent the past couple of weeks:

1) kissing Tina Brown's (*Vanity Fair*) and Anna Wintour's (*Vogue*) asses; 2) meeting Marilyn Quayle at a dinner and worshipping the ground she walks on when only a year ago—before the election and before they could invite her to a lot of BIG parties—she was ripping the Quayles to pieces; 3) meeting Mike Tyson and worshipping the ground he walks on when only a year ago Liz was practically calling him a wife-beater (she sure does get star struck once she meets these idiots); 4) Letting her racism once again rear its ugly head by attacking the Japanese for buying Hollywood film companies and, at one point, actually trying to imply that at least American film titans and companies have the *American people* in mind. Ha!

Then there was Liz's appearance on *A Current Affair* when they asked for her to comment on Sandra Bernhard's and Madonna's relationship. Our juices began flowing! Asking Liz Smith to comment about lesbianism! It was like asking Mother Teresa to comment about the nunhood! But, of course, Liz never used the "L" word, and downplayed the relationship as a "tease", while Michael Musto (*Village Voice*) pointed out that though the two may not be mulling with *each other*, Sandra does have a girlfriend, whom she told him about in *Spin*. At the end of the report, supreme homophobe Cindy Adams (*New York Post*) put the icing on the cake: "[Sandra and Madonna] were [in L.A.] at a bar called Muse and they left with ten women who all looked like truck drivers—but I'm not one to say." ▼

## CHIROPRACTOR

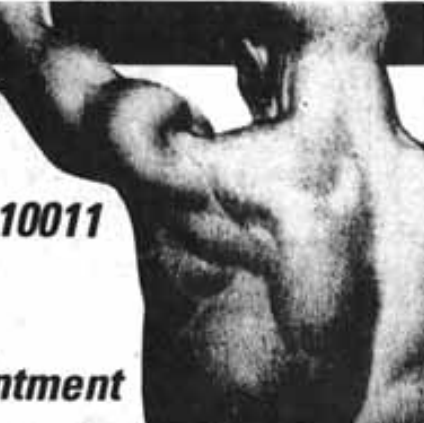
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**30 Fifth Avenue**

**New York, New York 10011**

**212.673.4331**

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# LUST HAB

by Liz



John Cardinal O'Connor has another brilliant idea.

In his personal, political and holy war against any control we have left over what we do with our bodies (let alone when, with who and how often), O'Connor feels he (and hence Catholicism as a whole) needs to be "more aggressive" in the fight for abolishment of abortion. He has suggested a new order of nuns, the "Sisters of Life," to protect and defend "the lives of the unborn."

I'll come right out and say it: I have a love/hate relationship with nuns. Actually, it's more of a lust/fear thing. I went to Catholic school for one year. The only reason I got to get out of the Seventh Circle of Hell called Our Lady of The Cenacle was because I was asked to leave. The primary reason for this polite expulsion was that I had slapped my teaching nun. Sister Joan had spanked me in front of my entire first grad class: over her knee, little Carter's underwear around my ankles, the whole horrible nightmare. I hadn't sat down when I was asked; I had been talking to Mary Jane, a beautiful blonde haired Polish girl who had a different-colored ribbon for her hair each day of the



# FUL ITS

cey

She's not struggling very hard, but staring at me. She hisses at me:

"I know what you women are like. I know what you want."

"How would you know anything about it, Sister?"

"I used to be like that. But now I've found my calling. I've been a Sister of Life for two years."

"It's just like a bicycle, Sister. You never forget how. Or how good it feels. Do you, Sister?"

I pull off her hat and run my hands

through her hair. She looks like Kelly McGillis. I look at her eyes, her cheekbones, the swell of her breasts underneath her habit. She moans:

"No, no. I've been so good!"

"I know. But I'm so much better..."

"Oh God, yes...take me..."

(Oh God. I feel like going to confession now.)

Just remember this: There have been other orders of nuns founded for single purposes. But those were mostly for pleasure. ▼

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**eroticizing**  
**safer sex**



**Wednesday**  
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week. I knew I was in love with her when we were playing "Mercy" one day and I made her cry (I guess I was always a top). I started crying as soon as she did, and fell head over heels for her. Hence my reluctance to sit down.

So here I am, 16 years later. Mary Jane has grown up, is married and has two kids, and I have this bizarre nun fetish that forces me to watch bad German lesbian nun-sex films with unintelligible dialogue, no subtitles and fake Artaud sets à la "Jeanne D'Arc."

As I was thinking about the "Sisters of Life," and imagining this band of tough, young nuns, my mind started wandering:

It is an Operation Rescue demonstration. I'm counterdemonstrating. I'm late. I wander towards the chanting, but get lost. As I approach this door in an alleyway, a tall woman in black commando nun garb comes shooting out from behind me and flips me to the ground. We struggle. She tries to get my hands behind my back and handcuff me. I flip her over instead and handcuff her hands above her head. We're both breathing hard; I'm sitting on top of her.

# Theater

## Just the Facts



**ARE YOU NOW OR HAVE YOU EVER BEEN...**  
Megan Gallagher, Mark Nelson and Tom Hulce

**A Few Good Men**, by Aaron Sorkin. The Music Box Theater. 239 W. 45th St.

by Michael Paller

**F**acts come at us from every direction and in every form in *A Few Good Men*, by Aaron Sorkin. They appear as exposition, as testimony, as confession. The "how" and the "what" are exhaustively explored, but Sorkin has in his busyness, left out the more important "why." He throws such a strong spotlight on the externals of the crime at hand that the inner workings of the accused and of the system within which they exist remain in the dark—and we, at the end, are unilluminated.

*A Few Good Men* is a courtroom

drama revolving around the trial of two Marines—one Black, one white—accused of killing an Hispanic member of their unit in the course of "disciplining" him for conduct not worthy of a Marine (this irony is not touched on until the last two minutes of the play). The Marines, played by Victor Love and Michael Dolan, are reluctant to tell the entire truth about the episode to their Navy lawyer, Daniel Kaffee (Tom Hulce), because doing so would violate the Marine code instructing them that the Corps is more important than their country or the Constitution (a position not commented on at all). Kaffee himself is reluctant to take the case to trial. He'd prefer to plea bargain, but is eventually goaded into pursuing the case by Navy lawyer Joanne Galloway (Megan Gallagher).

In the course of events, Kaffee runs up against the bunker mentality of a threatened military, personified

by the base commander Jessep (Stephen Lang) and the unit commander Kendrick (Ted Marcoux). This being a commercial play, none of our basic assumptions about the military are questioned, and neither is the notion of justice which eventually prevails.

The appeal of courtroom dramas lays in their reducing everything to "the facts": Who did what to whom, when. Life is boiled down to a simple narrative of heroes, villains, clearcut explanations and tidily wrapped up endings. The characters are types who behave according to our expectations, and after a modicum of suspense, things end pretty much the way we suspected they would. The audience is sent home feeling that, after a temporary aberration, all is well, and that we can sleep safely in our beds once more.

As for questions as to why some people join the Marines (many of whom are minorities whose country has never stomached fighting for them), why they believe so fervently in their code and are willing to live a life based on total obedience—in short, why they live the life they do—well, this is Broadway, and we don't ask those questions here.

If only Sorkin had worked against our expectations now and then. Jessep, for example, is a monster, an easy target for our contempt. But what if he seemed a reasonable man, one who could convince an Upper West Side liberal that the death of one unfit Hispanic Marine didn't matter? What if the battery of defense lawyers were less interested in the truth than in their careers? What if we came away thinking that the Jesses are the norm, not the exceptions? The play would have been less mechan-

See **JUST THE FACTS** on page 64

# Theater Drag Lift

**Nose Job (She Had to Model).** A William Love Production. Resumes on March 31, 1990 at Cooper Square Theater.

by Maria Maggenti

I have been noticing a very creepy and sinister phenomenon lately. If a club space is designated as gay male then it will inevitably be populated, in descending order, with gay men, straight couples and a sprinkling of lesbians. If a space is defined as lesbian or women-only you are sure to find all lesbians, one or two gay men and no straight couples. This rule of thumb for queer nightlife now also seems relevant to theater. If it's lesbian or women's theater (WOW Cafe Productions, Split Britches Theater Company) the audience will be populated with lesbians, straight women and maybe a couple of curious fags. But if it's gay-boy theater, including and especially if drag is involved, the audiences increasingly look like this: straight couples, some gay men and one dyke who is on the prowl for new theater so she can finally write some positive reviews.

This last scenario was the case Friday night at the Cooper Square Theater's production of *Nose Job (She Had to Model)* starring William Love (alias Jasmine Allspice). The play is a light and witty frolic through the many campy misadventures of Miss Tara Felchberger, proud graduate of the Barbizon School of Modeling, as she enters the dog-eat-dog world of high fashion modeling. For those who frequent the Pyramid, Jasmine Allspice will seem warmly familiar. This theater space is a bit more conducive to carrying a narrative story for a full 60 minutes, though, and the cast rises well to this challenge. The plot is simple: after graduating from the Barbizon School of Modeling, Tara

Felchberger enters the concrete jungle with the naive hope that she will get her first modeling job in ten minutes. She is convinced by a sleazy agency-type to spend \$2,000 cash on a nose job, pays the money to a creep wearing a blood-spattered white jacket who uses D-CON roach killer as anaesthesia and gets her nose thwacked with a monkey wrench. We don't get to see the results until later, but they are guaranteed to provoke an astonished guffaw. Undaunted by this experience, Tara's dream of magazine cover glory only intensifies as she romps from suburban teenage innocence to sleazy urban wisdom. On the way she meets up with the predictable cast of colorful characters and rip-off artists, though they all have a decidedly downtown drag/camp edge to them. There's the zaftig telephone sex solicitor, a cocaine and sex crazed photographer, a couple of evil models (I could have sworn I met them at Wigstock) and a Whiskey-A-Go-Go promoter who ultimately saves her life.

The story isn't as compelling as the (dare I say it?) Amazonian presence of William Love who wears the many mannerisms and emotions of Tara Felchberger as comfortably and as smoothly as Jackie O. wore her pillbox hats. Love's character is combination girlish naivete and girlish moxie and the result is more than a few good laughs. The rest of the cast is heartily enthusiastic and funny including the person who manages the lighting (the lights rise and dim as though animated) and the live piano player whose goofy score interrupts and enlivens the wackiness of the whole piece. Overall, it is charming and humorous, although remarkably unbitchy. And, isn't bitchiness, the angry and unapologetic testing of the straight world's categories of masculine and feminine identity, what drag



**BRUCE WEBER HAD NOTHING ON THIS BROKEN NOSE.** William Love a.k.a. Jasmine Allspice a.k.a. Tara Felchberger

Photo: Michael Wakefield

is really all about?

Without a sense of irony, drag sinks to the level of a freak show allowing its straight consumers the comfortable opportunity to reassure themselves that men in dresses are nothing but circus faggots whose stockings and lipstick should be relegated to the stage of a dark downtown theater, but who, seen in the light of day, serve as nothing but a blazing target for hatred and violence. For those of us who are lesbian and gay, the theatrical and artistic creations of our subculture not only serve to differentiate us from mainstream culture, but give us a sense of our own uniqueness and astonishing strength in the face of adversity. For those outside of gay culture, genderfuck should do more than simply entertain—it should provoke, enrage and threaten its viewers with the possibility that life as they know it is perhaps nothing but an oppressive and ugly illusion. *Nose Job (She Had to Model)* treads too lightly here, but even if it doesn't scare off big old straight guys and their idiotic giggly girlfriends, it does make for a fun evening of campy delights. (Or should I say spicy?) ▼

## Film

# Is There a Place for Gays in the Hollywood Family?

by Bruce C. Steele

In the recent spate of Hollywood movies about parenting, there are but two references to homosexuality—both times as the butt of the same joke. In *Look Who's Talking*, the grandmother-to-be (Olympia Dukakis) says sarcastically that artificial insemination is something done only by women who are "very ugly or lesbian." The "joke" is that her daughter (Kirstie Alley) is as likely to be a lesbian as she is likely to be thought very ugly—how absurd! (laugh laugh). But the ugliness belongs entirely to Amy Heckerling, the writer-director, who bulls her way through this smash-hit comedy by playing up to the most base assumptions of the average audience. The audience was about half children when I sat through the picture; some of them

thought the lesbian joke was quite a hoot. Heckerling herself finds the gag so clever she repeats it later, in the first scene with John Travolta, that living dinosaur from the disco epoch whose stupid but well meaning char-

acters so narrowly that gays are completely excluded, nonexistent. A New York State court may have asserted that gay lovers make up a legitimate family, but the news hasn't reached Hollywood.

Of course, homosexual characters have never had more than a rare and rarefied role in mainstream cinema. There's presumed to be no market for movies compassionate towards gays. After all, it was a big deal when *Kiss of the Spider Woman* (not a Hollywood product) grossed about \$20 million during its half a year in release. *Look Who's Talking* has made four times that much in less than six weeks. Yet, now that the family "problem" picture has moved from the TV networks into the theaters, tackling such ticklish subjects as sterility, senility and unwed motherhood, the continuing failure to admit the existence of ten percent of the population is

See HOLLYWOOD on page 69



**SAY CHEESY!**  
Hollywood's Happiest Huddle

Photo: Pete Souza

acter stands in for the moviegoers Heckerling has so accurately targeted. Three other current Hollywood movies demonstrate similar pro-family concerns. *Immediate Family*, *Dad* and last summer's *Parenthood*, define

networks into the theaters, tackling such ticklish subjects as sterility, senility and unwed motherhood, the continuing failure to admit the existence of ten percent of the population is

## Do the mysterious thing

In Jim Jarmusch's new release *Mystery Train*, there is mystery and there is a train. But there are no televisions in sight, a fact that each character in the film makes reference to. This three part story is in color, a new thing for Jim, and shares strange ground with Spike Lee's *Do the Right Thing*. I suppose we can assume Lee and Jarmusch are pals, both having been NYU film students. In the movie, Cinqué Lee—a filmmaker and Spike's brother—is the Memphis Arcade Hotel bellboy, seen struggling to stay up on this unusually hopping night with Screamin' Jay Hawkins, the nightclerk. All the good stuff takes place in this joint. The cool Japanese kids who are touring around Tennessee have sex and fight. Elvis' ghost appears, a bit shy (and he's incredibly endearing) about

having interrupted the sleep of two women, unannounced. The Arcade finally provides a hideout for Joe Strummer and his collaborators in crime. See, Strummer shoots the white guy behind the counter at the liquor store for making a racist remark about his "running buddy" who's Black (Rick Aviles). In the dilapidated free hotel room, Strummer queries about Elvis' picture on the wall. Why no pics of Black folks, like Otis Redding or Martin Luther King Jr.? Aviles promises him that next time they'll check into the Malcolm X suite. As in his other films, nothing is resolved, just a day in the life. About his work, Jarmusch says, "Sometimes two people going to have an ice cream cone can be much more dramatic or insightful than two people shooting at each other." What makes *Mystery Train* different is that he gives us both.

—Catherine Saalfeld



## Music

# Def Dumb & Ready



**Def Dumb & Blond.** Deborah Harry. Sire Records.

by Mark Chesnut

*I don't like flashbacks in movies  
I like the story to proceed  
I don't like talking about the old  
days*

*Except if it tells where the future  
will lead*

—"The End of the Run"

**W**here have you been?" Arsenio Hall asked repeatedly in his interview recently with Deborah Harry, revealing that he obviously had not done his homework. Deborah Harry has been around, it's just been harder to keep track of her. Since Blondie broke up in 1982, Deborah has worked through several films, television appearances, commercials, single releases and two albums. And while much of her activity has gone unnoticed by the masses, her new album and tour is an attempt to correct that pattern, and I must admit it was an exciting occasion to see her

perform at The World a couple of weeks ago.

I was actually surprised when they announced a third New York show had been added on Sunday, November 12. I was uncertain as to how much drawing power she still had. But the crowd packed into The World on Friday proved that she still has a solid core of followers, particularly in the East Village, where Blondie got its start at CBGB's.

It was quite a big deal to see a living icon from my youth on stage. Deborah

Harry made a very unpretentious entrance to the stage with her band, which includes her former life partner and continuing business partner, Chris Stein. They broke immediately into "The Hunter Gets Captured by the Game," a song written by Smokey Robinson that Blondie had covered in their final album *The Hunter*. An interesting, slow, moody song to open with, which most people probably thought was a cover of Grace Jones' hit.

The pace picked up as they faithfully performed almost all of Blondie's top 40 hits. We also heard seven songs from Deborah's new album, *Def Dumb & Blonde*, ranging from the pop bounciness of "I Want That Man" (written by the Thompson Twins) to an engaging, funky "Get Your Way," in which Deborah Harry raps once again (even better now than she did in "Rapture," the song that, like it or not, was the first rap cut to ever reach white middle-America).

The group made a smooth transition from the poppier sounds of songs like "The Tide is High" to a complementary post punk session that included new headbangers like "Bike Boy" and "Comic Books." Deborah added to the ambience by biting the petals off several roses and spitting them out at the crowd, at which point I couldn't help smashing my friends' heads several times as I bounced up and down like an insane straight person on West 8th Street.

The two encores included a cover of Lou Reed's "Waiting for the Man" plus "Call Me" and "French

See HARRY on page 65

## Spin-Out

How fitting that *Spin*, the same *Spin* that confirmed our gayest suspicions that Sandra Bernhard is a lesbian, be the magazine to crush those very same dreams. In this month's interview with Michelle Shocked, the writer manages to mention Michelle's "boyfriend" no less than five times. Some media assassins would be prompted to caution (in both cases), "Don't believe the hype."

On a more serious note, one has to wonder at the mysterious disappearance of notable feminist reggae group Casselberry and DuPree from SOB's (Sounds of Brazil) December 1 bill headlining Jamaica's Judy Mowatt. Knowing that Sister Judy is on record decrying the unnatural acts that some of us on this side of the fence are engaging in, was it the diva herself who couldn't bare to share the stage with such heathens? Or is this a simple case of SOB's pandering to the more general whims of the reggae industry by not wishing to rock the boat with such uppity women? (It should be noted that Casselberry and DuPree received a hearty welcome when they opened the same venue for Gil Scott Heron two months back.) It is time to let SOB's know just how much support Casselberry and DuPree has by dropping a letter of inquiry to: Sounds of Brazil, Attn: Char, 204 Varick St., New York, NY 10014.

—Victoria Starr

# Art Witness This

**Witnesses: Against Our Vanishing.**  
Artists Space, 223 West Broadway, 226-3970. Thru January 6, 1990.

by Jon Nalley

**T**he controversy surrounding the funding of *Witnesses:*

*Against Our Vanishing* by the National Endowment for the Arts rings with Shakespearean resonances. For most New York viewers the exhibition is quite tame, nothing that one wouldn't see or hear in the streets. "Much Ado About Nothing?" That Artists Space was granted \$10,000 for the show, but not for the catalog, is interesting in that the show contains the kind of homoerotic work banned by the Helms Amendment while the catalog does not. But why the furor when a much more controversial exhibition called *Uprising: Videotapes on the Palestinian Resistance* goes on downstairs at Artists Space with NEA funding? A "Comedy of Errors" anyone?

Above and beyond that, however, much of the work pulled together by exhibition curator Nan Goldin is quite powerful—so powerful, in fact, that it can be difficult to look at and assimilate. At the same time, much of it exhibits a disembodied quality. *Witnesses*, while daunting in its array of media, is particularly strong in regards to photography.

The stark, graphic detail of Peter

Hujar's (1934-1987) black and white photographs denote with every line and shadow, the various levels of life. While capturing the sexuality and beauty of his subjects, he does not do this at the expense of their other deeper qualities. Philip-Lorca Di Corcia's selected ekta-color and polaroid prints can be said to represent various rites of passage in terms



**SELF PORTRAIT AFTER PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERT MAPPLETHORPE, 1989, INK ON PAPER**  
Darrel Ellis

of AIDS. The first colorful and whimsical photo of a person sitting in his cluttered apartment wearing "down-town clothes," captures life on one's own before AIDS dissolves it. The next print, "Vittorio," brilliantly conveys the borderline between death (the emaciated PWA on life support) and colored balloons representing life. Concluding the set is a photo of a person in a sterile room not his own,

emptied of personal belongings—possibly at his parents' house in the emptied room of his childhood—and one of a thank you card (from friends? biological family?).

Continuing on the photo front, David Armstrong's various portraits amaze with their emotion and expression. While beautifully stylized, Armstrong allows his subjects, individuals at the frontlines of the AIDS crisis, to speak for themselves, slapping the viewers with their very reality. One can sense their various interfacing levels of denial, coping and survival. Speaking of slapping, Mark Morrisroe's (1959-1989) exhibited works are intense and at times unpleasant. An upper middle class, suburban woman standing next to her husband remarked about them, "That's mind boggling." Not exactly boggled, his various portraits, self-portraits and "...In the Home of a Rubber Fetishist" were piercingly fascinating. Almost an accelerated *Picture of Dorian Gray*, Morrisroe's photos take us through unencumbered, exuberant beauty and sexuality to emaciated degradation and loss of dignity. Particularly beautiful is his "Self Portrait in the shower." Accompanying his work is Ramsey McPhillip's disturbing 1989 multimedia piece about Morrisroe, "Am I Dead Yet?"

The work of David Wojnarowicz, conflationary in use of image and text strikes hard with political fury, a fury that hit too close to the yellow home of NEA chairman John E. Frohnmeyer. Wojnarowicz puts it on the line in his connective representation of the reality of AIDS, money and the intersection of race and class privilege in the plight of poor and minority PWAs seeking AZT from big-city clinics, the only option for the less fortunate.

Text in this artist's collage juxtaposes the ravings of the Right about "carriers" and its desired suppression of sexuality with unapologetic discourse on cruising, fucking, sucking and various expressions of homosex. In this work, with its aerial view of lower Manhattan, there are two enemies—viruses attacking our individual immune systems and riot-gear police attacking our community. His concluding work, with intermingling sperm cells and money, is a thundering manifesto denouncing society's homophobia and hatred which castigates the refusal by Republicans in Albany to approve the Antibias Crimes Bill.

"Permeable Membranes," Jo Shane's 1989 mixed media assemblage is a walk on the dark side of the AIDS epidemic. With its two metal hospital bedside tables, blood vials, urn, memorial chapel parcel and mushroom-shaped photo representations of friends affected, "Membranes" genuinely represents the ugliness of people being consumed by AIDS. A companion piece to a work in The Quilt in memory of "the many thousands of women disappeared with AIDS," Kiki Smith's 1989 silkscreen on muslin "All Our Sisters" conveys the very numbers and suffering of those women, all too ignored in the epidemic's equation. Particularly powerful is the hanging paper body which hovers as a "presence of absence like the many souls of my community dead from AIDS alive in [me]."

Allen Frame's exploration of a continuum of gay sensibility over time and situations stands out as a historical document, as well as storytelling. The 1989 series of six c-prints by Clarence Elie-Rivera from "Sofie y Maralin" to "Beso para El Sobrino" lays the mystique of and response to AIDS in the Latino communities at our feet. The subjects, ranging from a drag queen to a young child, are notable for their emotions of endurance. The very transient and isolated nature of American society, with or without AIDS, is aptly captured in Sheelburne Thurber's Motel series. The motel rooms in these ekta-color prints convey the finality of the spaces in Thurber's life, a life left

empty by AIDS.

A representation of a bridge to nowhere and its textural impact elicit the spiritual quality in Tom Chesley's oil on canvas "Time for Communion II." Greer Lankton's series of mixed-media works are, meanwhile, a powerful comment on the transitory and fragile nature of our bodies—a condition made abundantly clear by AIDS.

The eight untitled marker drawings by Vito Scarpati (1955-1989) are brilliantly reminiscent of historical depictions of the plague and Europe's barbaric response, a metaphor particularly consistent with the AIDS crisis in the United States. His large untitled 1989 crayon drawing can, on the other hand, be seen in terms of an individual.

See WITNESSES on page 69

## Life Work

**The Technological Reliquaries** Paul Thek (1933-1988) and **Insights**, Rod Rhodes (1933-1988). The Clocktower Gallery, 108 Leonard Street, 13th floor. 233-1096. Thru December 24.

Just a few blocks from the meshugass and madding crowds queuing and demonstrating at Artists Space's *Witnesses* opening, two other exhibitions by artists who died of AIDS opened at the Clocktower Gallery.

In the upper gallery, Paul Thek's various untitled pieces in wax, plexiglass and metal done from 1965-66 are ultra-modernistic in their perspective. With all of them, but particularly with the pieces in which Thek used formica, the organ-looking wax contained by inorganic substance represents much of the "individual trapped by technology/the system" ethic of the 60s. Thek's work, while fascinating now for its texture and stark quality, must have been revolutionary when it was done. Those of us who are children of the 70s and 80s could well find viewing his work a consciousness-raising experience. For others, it might capture the intensity and power of another time.

Meanwhile, Rod Rhodes' work is installed in the lower gallery. While working on the Greek cross wall piece "Santa Fe" in May 1988, Rhodes learned he had AIDS. He determined to use this form for a major work "Stations of the Cross." Combining the story of Christ's death with personal imagery from the artist's life, this 14-part work represents the ascent of Calvary, as well as Rhodes' life and coming to terms with AIDS.

Finished in June 1989, Rhodes died October 27 of this year, less than three weeks before "Stations" was mounted for the first time. Tom Finkelpearl, the curator for the two exhibitions, noted that Rhodes had the unusual ability in his work to move easily between a Christian/spiritual aura and homoerotic imagery. While this creates a most effective tension in many of his works, its medium, formality and the muted nature of its homoerotic imagery may preclude the kind of hostility engendered by Mapplethorpe's work.

The mixture of Christianity and AIDS-related autobiography has an explosive nature, particularly in "The Third Fall" (in blood red with a twisted catwalk) and "Death." "Christ Taken Down from the Cross" is powerful, as are the other pieces, on a variety of levels. In these glass-encased works of wood, felt and other materials, one can feel the conflict between various temperaments, spiritual and sexual, and technology and nature itself. "Simon Helps Christ," with its inclusion of bathtubs—a secular and spiritual work—calls to mind the Mineshaft, a sex club closed in November 1985 where hundreds of men would indeed participate in sexual rituals "with quasi-religious purport." Rhodes represented Simon's chance meeting with Christ as a profound meditation on friendship, love and loss.

*Insights* also includes some wonderful works done earlier by Rhodes in the same glass-encased medium. Of particular note are his 1979-80 pieces which capture a more joyful and exuberant period.

—Jon Nalley

## Video

# Here's a Story of Some Lovely Ladies...



### LESBIAN VIDEO ANYONE?

Mistress Judith flashes her pearly whites.

**It's a Lezzie Life**, produced by Ingrid Wilhite. \$34.95. 30 minutes running time. LBL Video, Suite 181, POB 2889, San Francisco, CA 94111.

by Wickie Stamps

**R**emember when, laden down with makeshift props and impromptu scripts, the women's movement spilled into the streets and took an artful guerilla theater swing at the Right? They'd prance for passers-by, mug for the press (if they could grab their attention) and thumb their noses at the self-righteous Right. In *It's a Lezzie Life*, a 30-minute "dyke-umentary," producer Ingrid Wilhite continues this legacy of comical parody, although this time the zany pot shots are aimed at ourselves rather than the establishment.

Ingrid Wilhite, who grew up among Jerry Falwell followers, is no stranger to comic gay/lesbian filmmaking. In fact, she's a longstanding "fan of slapstick humor." Barely into puberty, she was hollering "lights, camera, action" and turning her camera onto right-wing fundamentalists. Her first "homo movies" were *Fruit Salad* and *Fruit Cocktail*. "The main star was my drag queen friend, who would dress to the nines and freak out the Mormons on Main Street while I captured their reaction on film...you can

imagine what a scandal I was!" claims Wilhite. Taking leave of the bible belt, Wilhite went on to train as a filmmaker and produced *Fun with a Sausage*, a gender bender lesbian spoof which, in 1984, won the "Best Super 8" at the San Francisco International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.

In *It's a Lezzie Life*, which originally debuted at the 1988 San Francisco International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival and is now available for distribution, Wilhite is back with slapstick situation comedy as well as her "sad sack" star who first appeared in *Fun with a Sausage*.

Set in—where else but—San Francisco, *It's a Lezzie Life* zooms into the lives of four lesbian roomies who are daffy caricatures of very conflicting dyke lifestyles. There's beer swilling Lee, the butch military enlistee who just arrived home from some military exercise. She just wants to drink her brewskies, zone out on the football game or cruise her roomie's newest chick. Only when she's moved by a need to "take a whiz" will she pry herself from her sedentary ways. Then there is Ova, the overbearing politico, who is always on the lookout for some unsuspecting victim she can strong arm with her moralistic diatribes. Next, you'll bump into snooty Mistress Judith, the total fem s/m dyke who sleeps with a foofy eye mask. Dressed by day like a school marm, at nightfall she's transformed into a dominant swathed in leather, lace and latex. Last but not least is Ingrid, the newly-out midwestern nerd. She's a total mess. Periodically, she falls prey to well-meaning Mistress Judith who, in an effort to fem up Ingrid's look, paints her face with garish makeup.

From the first clang of the alarm, these four come out swinging. All are contending for which politics, look and lifestyle will rule their roost. Between her endless meetings, Ova relentlessly pounces on her peers for their "bourgeoisie power trips" or reams out Coors-drinking Lee. Lee is a street brawler who spends an inordinate amount of time belching defiantly or flipping Ova the bird. Mistress Judith pins her opponents with her scathing glances or slices them open with her razor sharp tongue. Ingrid just mopes.

No corner of lesbian turf is sacred. Whether standing in line for the bathroom or passing in the hallways, these lezzies spat over a million burning issues: lesbians in the military, violence against women, monogamy, each other's eating habits. Ova gets it good though when she

See LEZZIE LIFE on page 64



Video

# Paper, Scissors, Rock and a Hard Place



Yvonne (Wendy Turner) and Aiysha (Kalimi Baxter) get serious.

**Vida** (in English and Spanish). Directed by Lourdes Portillo. Written by Ana Maria Simo. **Are You With Me?** Directed by M. Neema Barnette. Written by Marian Warrington. **Seriously Fresh.** Directed by Reggie Life. Written by Jamal Joseph. All videos produced by AIDS FILMS.

by Peter Bowen

**W**hile the majority of AIDS education continues to target an amorphous "general public," AIDS FILMS, a not-for-profit production company, has recently produced a series of educational AIDS videos which specifically acknowledge the social and cultural differences

which constitute communities (in this case, Latina women, African-American women and African-American male youth). Conceived of and produced by people from those communities, these videos are aimed at the individuals most drastically affected by and most direly in need of educational material about the AIDS crisis. Although they might receive a television broadcast, they are specifically intended for use by needy organizations and come with a discussion handbook which enables viewers to locate their personal experiences in the artful narrative of each video.

As with most educational material, the format is intentionally formulaic. In acknowledging the very real existence of AIDS about them, characters grapple with culturally reinforced fears about AIDS in order to ultimately work out individual strategies to cope with the AIDS crisis. In *Vida*, Elsie (Jeanette Toro) is fright-

ened even to name the illness devastating her friend, Blanca (Millie Cupeles). She is finally persuaded by her friend, Lucy (Sandra Paulino), to confront her denial and insist that her boyfriend wear a condom. In *Are You With Me?*, two African-American women—a mother, Evelyn (Gwen M. Coleman), and her daughter, Aiysha (Kalimi Baxter)—force each other to acknowledge the need to insist on protection with their male lovers. And finally in *Seriously Fresh*, a group of young African-American guys take time out from basketball practice in order to hesitantly consider their own risk of HIV infection after learning that their friend and mentor Kenny (Richard Barboza) has developed AIDS.

While each video is unambiguously didactic, each creates enough ambiguity to stir up questions and discussions. In *Are You With Me?*, for example, it is entirely unclear whether the mother will insist that her longstanding boyfriend wear the condom which she has, with a certain reservation, brought with her on her date. *Seriously Fresh* raises the difficult issue of same-sex behavior when Billy (Malik Yoba) confesses that he might be at risk from fucking around with other boys, although the video does not connect such activity with a "gay" identity. Much to his credit, the executive director of AIDS FILMS, John Hoffman, has produced a series of videos which do not presume to tell people how to deal with AIDS. Rather, these stories hold out the hope of empowering the otherwise disenfranchised to "change the rules."

Information about these videos can be obtained from AIDS FILMS, 50 W. 34th St., Suite 6B6, New York, NY 10001, (212) 629-6288. ▼

## Books

# Construction Junction What's Your Function?

*This review is the first in an occasional series, "Canon Fodder," engaging scholarship on topics relating to gays and lesbians.*

**The Construction of Homosexuality** by David F. Greenberg.  
University of Chicago Press. 1988.  
635 pp.

by Michael Schwarz

**W**hen asked what he thought of Christianity, Oscar Wilde is reputed to have responded that he thought it would be a good idea. One could reach much the same conclusion about David F. Greenberg's book, *The Construction of Homosexuality*. It would be a very good idea to have a single volume summary of the history, sociology and anthropology of homosexuality. It would be wonderful—and astounding—if that book could also resolve many of the vexing theoretical questions that have been at the center of academic debate in these areas.

After reading Greenberg's book, one is left with the clear sense that although such a book might be desirable, it has not yet been realized. If ever there was a book that will both subtly mislead the general reader and infuriate the specialist, this is it.

Why is this book so unsatisfying? The book's main problem stems from its author's intellectual arrogance. One expects a certain lack of critical distance from a sociologist who pro-

claims that an analysis of primary sources is no longer required because of the wide range of secondary sources available. And to be fair, Greenberg does attempt to critically analyze certain historical and ethnographic sources. The problem is inconsistency. He treats some documents in great detail, while glossing over whole areas of research in a paragraph.

More serious still is Greenberg's lack of care with secondary sources, and particularly his use of secondary sources that are unreliable, out of date, or both. Perhaps the most amusing example of this is Greenberg's statement that ancient Egyptians were "sexually inhibited and modest." In the footnote, Greenberg's only support for the statement is, "personal

instances, Greenberg is, to put it mildly, less than convincing.

Other examples of carelessness abound. Greenberg attempts textual analysis of Latin and Persian poetry, without giving any evidence that he understands the original languages. My suspicion is that he has done a close reading of the translations, an act which displays tremendous insensitivity to issues of translation and semantics. In another section, Greenberg appears to give Arthur Evan's highly unreliable, *Witchcraft and the Gay Counterculture* the same weight as Peter Brown's acclaimed *The Making of Late Antiquity*. There are citations in the text that do not correspond to anything in the bibliography. And one finds a disturbing overreliance on sources that are more than 20 years old. Each of these faults by itself would not be excessively troubling, but taken as a whole they undermine the reader's sense that

Greenberg has taken due care in constructing his narrative.

This is not to say that the book is an unmitigated disaster: it is not. Greenberg's conclusions, and especially his discussion of theoretical questions, are han-

dled skillfully and with wit. Greenberg's use of Mary Douglas' Grid/Group analysis (a kind of functionalist analysis of the relationship between group behavior and belief) in analyzing homosexuality in the early Christian period is insightful and stimulating, although once again, his citations are out of date. His analysis of the development of homosexual subcultures in 18th and 19th century

See HOMOSEXUALITY on page 64

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**A book that will both subtly mislead the general reader and infuriate the specialist.**

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communication, Robert Bianchi." Now I am no Egyptologist, and I am sure that if I knew who Robert Bianchi was that I would be duly impressed (he is not listed in the 113 page bibliography). But even if he personally witnessed this type of behavior (which of course he could not possibly have done), Greenberg would still need to document why he believes his evidence is compelling. In this instance, as in so many other

# GCN

## Gay Cable Network

### THURSDAYS

#### ***Pride & Progress***

**December 7**

10:30 pm

- Gay Week in Review
- Act-Up
- GCN Close-Up
- Sports
- Lavender Health

Gay Bashing: Does the Government really care? Andy Humm, David Wertheimer, and Jim Levin

Special Report on World AIDS Day

11:00 pm

#### ***The Right Stuff***

- Naming Names
- All About Women
- Media Watch
- Staying Out
- Around the Country
- Razor Sharp

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A special video tape: *DHPG Mon Amour*

A new series: *A Brave New World*  
Commentary by Lou Malletta

### SUNDAYS

#### ***Men & Films***

**December 10**

11:30 pm

Reviews of male erotica along with interviews behind the scenes with film stars

Legendary Bodies continue with Kyle Jessup  
Clips from *Hot Rods*, Jeff Stryker's *Powerful II*, & more from *Muscle Up*

### MONDAYS

#### ***Be My Guest***

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#### HOMOSEXUALITY from page 62

Europe is informed, although not particularly provocative. The literature on the medicalization of homosexuality is discussed in a workaday fashion. And his attack on Michel Foucault, and on the extreme fringe of social constructionism, seems fair, although overstated. Greenberg likes to see his approach to sexual history as clearly differentiated from that of Foucault and other so-called "social constructionists." I for one am unconvinced. Foucault wrote of the freedom of sexual meanings from essentialist categories, but this is not the same thing as claiming that sexual meanings are entirely without context. Although Foucault brought into question the relationship between social consciousness and social structure, nowhere does he make the positive claim that one is irrelevant to the other.

Greenberg's *Construction of Homosexuality*, in other words, should be read with extreme caution, as should any book that attempts to summarize the findings of more than 2,000 books. Its analytical framework is interesting and provocative, although as a whole it failed to thoroughly persuade this reader. If people find individual sections of the book stimulating, they should read further on the subject. For these purposes, Greenberg's bibliography is helpful, although, again, it should not be relied upon all by itself. Despite these deficiencies, the book does provide a good discussion of some of the theoretical debates of interest to gay academics. For these limited purposes, and for these purposes alone, I recommend it. ▼

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#### LEZZIE LIFE from page 60

lays into Judith the makeup queen for "faill[ing] to see the political impact of cosmetics." Judith snaps her with a southpaw, "I'd rather have Elizabeth Arden or Mary Kay on my face than some of the floozies you've had on your face!" And she proceeds, "The issue here is personal choice...the freedom to look however I want...reasserting my God given right to be alluring...maybe you can get laid in Birkenstocks and a gunny sack but not me babe...these are the 80s bean sprout breath...fem is in!"

An admirer of "physical comedy" or "sight gags," which is body language humor often seen in the muggings of comedienettes like Carol Burnette, *It's a Lezzie Life* is ripe with eye rolling, mimicking and teeth sucking. Ova rattles dishes to rattle Mistress Judith's nerves. Lee is a master at deadpanning when she catches a glimpse of the satins and furs dripping off Mistress Judith's newest conquest.

Only when Ingrid's old right-wing Pastor ("call me Dick") pops in for a visit do these girls let up on each other and switch to some tag team tactics against his repressive moralism. Ova and Lee do everything possible to flip his conservative wig. They loudly discuss the newest course at the local s/m society and blatantly flip through erotic lesbian magazines. Despite their talented antics, the pace and dialogue falter during this segment, something a little more cutting could have prevented.

The props in *It's a Lezzie Life* bolster its madcap energy. Instead of the oversized shoes or gargantuan mallets that typify the Keystone Cops or The Three Stooges, *It's a Lezzie Life* is filled with mongo "Rent Due" notes clipped on refrigerator doors and mammoth coffee filters poignantly designating the exact amount of coffee that is to be rationed from the collective's food coffers.

A tight script, strong acting and meticulous attention to props fuel this damned funny, albeit racially limited, video. Wilhite gets us enviously wishing that we too could sling mud and zing our sisterly adversaries in like manner. In an interview with *OutWeek*, Wilhite explained the drive behind that comic impulse. "There is a need for

lesbian humor, humor which is about lesbian sexuality and filled with characters and situations unique to us. The creation of lesbian sitcoms and the opportunity to see ourselves treated in a positive, humorous way is a visual form of acceptance and validation. By the way, lesbians are funny. Our reputation which says we have no sense of humor is pure malarkey!" Is there a series in the making? "One of the ideas under discussion is a sequel in which Ingrid goes home to the failing farm for a visit with her new Marxist lover in tow...It's kind of a "Dykes of Wrath" social statement comedy." ▼

#### JUST THE FACTS from page 54

cal, more human, more interesting.

Sorkin treats his one female character with contempt. Galloway has plenty of feminine intuition—she has terrific hunches—but in court, where intellect counts, she blows it and the day must be saved by Kaffee. Indeed, after Galloway prods Kaffee into becoming a fearless lawyer, and plants an important plot point in our minds, her role in the play is essentially over.

With two exceptions, the actors perform as the script and the director Don Scardino require: All is smooth, well-oiled yet rather tense and not especially imaginative. As written and acted, the characters are interchangeable cogs in a plot machine. Mark Nelson, as Kaffee's reluctant assistant, is more human however; he leaves questions about himself unanswered, while all other questions are answered resoundingly. Lang's performance is what the English call "interesting acting": It is invested with imagination and we find ourselves watching him whenever he's onstage. The performance, however, seems more an accomplishment of technique than of truth.

There is a certain satisfaction in this kind of story and acting. It's the kind we get from watching the gears turn smoothly, from knowing that the mechanism works and that the clock will strike on time. This particular clock is, indeed, an accurate gauge of our time and place—but in a less reassuring way than either its author or audience apparently believes. ▼



**HARRY** from page 57

Kissing (In the USA)," a number that barely crawled into the top 40, but seemed to tie in conceptually with Deborah's television commercials for Sara Lee.

Some people are looking at *Def Dumb & Blonde* as a real comeback for Deborah Harry. The sounds are truer to the original sounds of Blondie. And her new label, Sire Records, seems more committed to pushing the album—Deborah Harry has been more visible in the media recently than she has been in a long time. They even somehow got a story about her alleged hitchhiking experience with Ted Bundy onto Page Six of the *New York Post*.

*Def Dumb & Blonde* is a fun album. It has some catchy numbers, with a mix of music that should please most of her followers, even though she is dressed too much like Stevie Nicks in the video for "I Want That Man." The plan now is to get back to basics—playing smaller clubs, releasing dependable pop/rock tunes, along with some "punk" stuff to win back some of the audience that first established Blondie. I hope that a new success will bring back more experimental work, like Blondie dared with *AutoAmerican*, (which featured "Rapture", plus a Rogers and Hammerstein cover) and Deborah Harry did with *Koo Koo*, which was produced by Nile Rodgers and Bernard Edwards of Chic, and included excellent graphics by Giger (the artist responsible for *Alien*).

But then again, it was Blondie's and Deborah Harry's flights into other territory that added to the demise of Blondie, according to some. Maybe that's one reason why "In Love with Love" from Deborah Harry's album *Rockbird* got more play in dance clubs than anywhere else, and "Feel the Spin," from the movie *Krush Groove*, got no airplay at all that I am aware of. Maybe this shift back is what Deborah Harry needs to return to the forefront of the music scene. It remains to be seen if the pop/rock formula that proved successful for Blondie will do the same for Deborah Harry. ▼



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### MONDAY

#### DECEMBER 4

LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE AND  
EDUCATION FUND Forum: *Lambda Law '89*, a year-end  
review of legal issues facing gay  
and lesbian people; Paula Ettle-  
brick will moderate a panel  
which includes Tom Stoddard,  
Nan Hunter, David Barr, Sandra  
Lowe and Evan Wolfson; at NYU  
Law School's Tischman Auditori-  
um, 40 Washington Square South;  
7 pm; free; 995-8585

### TUESDAY

#### DECEMBER 5

CENTER STAGE sees *Meet Me in  
St. Louis*, with George Hearn  
and Milo O'Shea; at the Gershwin  
Theatre; 8 pm; \$58; 620-7310

COALITION FOR LESBIAN AND  
GAY RIGHTS Holiday Party, at  
The Center, 627-1398

### WEDNESDAY

#### DECEMBER 6

COMMUNITY RESEARCH INITIA-  
TIVE Night of 1000 Trees, in  
which celebrities decorate trees  
for auction; at the Sheraton Cen-  
ter, 7th Ave & 50 St; 7 pm; 308-  
7029

CONGREGATION BETH SIM-  
CHAT TORAH Jewish Education  
Courses; tonight: *Contemporary  
Jewish Social Issues: Interfaith  
Relationships* at 7 pm; at 57  
Bethune St; info 929-9498

CENTER SPORTS sees NY  
Rangers vs. NJ Devils, hockey  
match; at Madison Sq. Garden,  
33rd St & 7th Ave; 7:30 pm; mem-  
bers \$25/non-members \$35; 620-  
7310

GAY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION  
Monthly Meeting and Panel  
Discussion: *Gay Administrators*; at The Center, 208 W 13 St;  
8 pm; 620-7310

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS Men  
Meeting Men Workshop, to  
enhance self-confidence and abil-  
ity to negotiate safer sex with  
potential partners; at The Center,  
208 W 13 St; 8-10:30 pm; free; no  
pre-registration, 807-6655 (TDD  
645-7470)

EAGLE BAR Movie Night: *Bat-  
man*; 142 11th Ave (at 21 St); 11  
pm; 691-8451

### THURSDAY

#### DECEMBER 7

SAGE Women's Sexuality  
Workshop, led by Suzanne  
Newman, exploring "feelings  
about our bodies, self-esteem,  
flirtation, intimacy, monogamy,  
medical issues and safety"; at The  
Center, 208 W 13 St; 6-8 pm; lim-  
ited participation, rsvp with  
Arlene 741-2247

CENTER NYC Orientation, to  
"learn more about your gay and  
lesbian community"; with com-  
munity leaders to talk to and lots  
of leaflets to pick up; 208 W 13  
St; 7 pm; 620-7310

CENTER STAGE sees Victor  
Bumbalo's *Adam and the  
Experts*, produced by 3-Dollar  
Bill Theatre, with Louie Miller,  
Jenny Diver and Lucy Brown; at  
the Apple Corps Theater, 336 W  
20 St; 8 pm; \$25; 620-7310

GAY WOMEN'S ALTERNATIVE pre-  
sents Lee Hudson, Mayor's Liaison  
to the Lesbian and Gay Commu-  
nity, showing the video *AntiGay  
Violence*, produced by the Mayor's  
Police Council of Lesbian and Gay  
Issues; also Ginny Vida, editor of  
*Our Right to Love*, discussing key  
legislation affecting women on the  
state and federal level; with a  
refreshment break; at the Universa-  
list Church, Central Park West at 76  
St; 8 pm; \$5 (for women only,  
meets every first Thursday)

### FRIDAY

#### DECEMBER 8

MEDIA NETWORK, BROOKLYN  
AIDS TASK FORCE and THE  
DEPT. OF HEALTH present a  
Video Preview of "Innovative  
AIDS/HIV educational  
videos...plus a discussion of how  
to rent or borrow these tapes for  
your organization"; at The Hub,  
349 E 149 St, the Bronx; 2-4 pm;  
free; 292-8000

GAY MEN OF AFRICAN  
DESCENT sees *Tongues Untied*,  
the first American video docu-  
mentary on the Black Gay Male  
experience, by Marlon Riggs,  
who will be at the screening  
leading an audience discussion  
afterwards; NYU Tsch School of  
the Arts; 7:30 pm; \$7; rsvp a must  
at 718/797-1474

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETH-  
ER/NY Educational Forum: *It's  
Not Always Carnival in Brazil*;  
with Jake Steven's slide presenta-  
tion on Bahia, Brazil; at The Cen-  
ter, 208 W 13 St; 7:45 pm;  
222-9794, 245-6366

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS THEATER  
STUDIO presents Robert  
Patrick's *The Haunted Host*;  
432 W 42 St; 8 pm; \$10-\$12; 564-  
8038 (FRI, SAT and SUN, this and  
next weekend only)

### SATURDAY

#### DECEMBER 9

TERRY WEISSER and L.K.  
AUBREY Seminar: *Sex, Men,  
and Intimacy*, a "one-day  
hands-on seminar examining  
erotic connections and how we  
experience intimacy and sex with  
other men"; \$75; Terry 463-9152,  
Aubrey 475-1497

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS  
Workshop: *Sex, Dating and  
Intimacy*, an all-day "sex-posi-  
tive learning experience,  
designed especially for gay and  
bisexual men. We'll explore the  
many ways that men are loving  
men in the age of AIDS"; at the

General Seminary, 175 9th Ave  
(at 20 St); 10 am sharp - 6 pm;  
free, but rsvp a must at 807-6655,  
TDD 645-7470

SAGE Holiday Brunch at Rogers  
and Barbero, 149 8th Ave (btwn  
17/18 Sts); 11:30 am or 2 pm  
seating; \$15; pre-paid rsvp a  
must, 741-2247

SAGE Workshop/Discussion:  
*Between Two Worlds: Orga-  
nized Religion and Gay Com-  
munity Commitment*; led by  
priest/therapist Daniel  
McCarthy, at The Center, 208  
W 13 St; 4-6 pm; \$1 mem-  
bers/\$3 non-members; rsvp a  
must, 741-2247

FEATURE (GALLERY) Reception  
for Tom of Finland and  
Bastille Exhibit; showing Fin-  
land's "drawings of sexually  
active, over-endowed men" and  
Bastille's "paintings of S & M scat  
scenes"; at 484 Broome St; 5-7  
pm; 941-7077 (Editor's note: not  
an NEA-sponsored show)

PRESBYTERIANS FOR LES-  
BIAN/GAY CONCERNS Christ-  
mas Party, following the annual  
Advent Worship Service at West-  
Park Presbyterian Church, 165 W  
86 St (ring "receptionist" door-  
bell); 7 pm; party nearby, info  
362-4890

CENTER SPORTS sees NY  
Knicks vs. Boston Celtics, bas-  
ketball game; at Madison Square  
Garden, 33rd St & 7th Ave; 8 pm - 1  
am; \$10; 222-9794, 245-6366

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETH-  
ER/NEW YORK Dance: *Rhythm  
Nation*, with cash bar and  
snacks; 135 W 14 St, 2nd Floor  
(btwn 6th/7th Aves); 8 pm - 1  
am; \$10; 222-9794, 245-6366

CENTERSHOWS presents *Opera  
Ebony*, a company that performs  
excerpts from *Lost in the Stars*,  
Ellington's *Freedom Songs*,  
Joplin's *Treemonisha*, and the  
Prison Scene Trio from *Faust*; at  
The Center, 208 W 13 St; 8 pm;  
\$12; 620-7310

PEOPLE'S VOICE CAFE presents **Lifeline**, DC's all-woman pop/rock band; in the Washington Square Church Parlor, 133 W 4 St; 8 pm; \$6; 718/426-2183

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS THEATER STUDIO presents **Robert Patrick's The Haunted Host**, see DEC 8

STONEWALL CHORALE **Holiday Concert** at Town Hall, featuring carols and music of the season, plus Benjamin Britten's *Ceremony of Carols* and Bach's *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* (BWV 61), with chorus, soloists and orchestra; 123 W 43 St; 8 pm; \$12-\$18; info 721-2924

CENTER and TEAM NEW YORK (NY's Gay Games team) co-sponsors the **2nd Saturday Dance**, with DJ Jerry Armstrong; at 208 W 13 St; 9 pm - 1 am; \$8/\$6 for members, seniors, students; Center 620-7310, Team NY 580-7668

SPECTRUM DISCO presents **Seventh Avenue**, singing "The Love I Lost"; 802 64th St, Bay Ridge, Brooklyn (N train to 8th Ave stop); opens at 9 pm; 718/238-8213

COLUMBIA PEP BOYS PRODUCTION **Same But Different Dance**, for gay men and lesbians and their friends; Earl Hall, 116 St & B'way (#1/#9 train); 10 pm - 2 am; \$5 with invite or student ID/\$6 without; 854-3574 (part of the proceeds will be donated to ACT UP)

THE SAINT AT LARGE **"Saint" Saturday Nights**, with tonight's DJ Terry Sherman, lights by Richard Sabala, and live entertainment; at the address of the original Saint, with lower level lounge, upper level light show, balcony viewing area; 105 2nd Ave (at 6 St); doors open 11 pm; \$15 (door only); 674-8541

## SUNDAY DECEMBER 10

ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) and WHAM! (Women's Health Action and Mobilization) **Stop the Church: A March on St. Patrick's Cathedral**, to "challenge Cardinal O'Connor and the Catholic Church hierarchy for their interference in public policy concerning AIDS and abortion, and the religious influence that perse-

cutes gays and women in society"; 5th Ave and 50 St; 9:30 am; ACT UP info 533-8888, media contact 533-4913

SAGE **Christmas at Mystic Seaport**, including a private escorted tour of the famous museum-village in Connecticut, luncheon, Christmas shopping; 741-2247

CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH **Seminar: Jewish Resistance to the Holocaust**, conducted by Saul Mizrahi and Howard Abramovitz; at 57 Bethune St (Westbeth Complex), up center courtyard ramp; 2 pm sharp; 929-9498

WOMEN'S Circle, Line and Square Dance, with live musicians and instructor, "all you need are two feet and a sense of humor"; at The Center, 208 W 13 St; 2-5 pm; \$10; 718/784-2554, 212/567-2636

BISEXUAL PRIDE Focus Group: **Coming On B!**, at The Center, 208 W 13 St, 3 pm, \$5, 718/353-8245

GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEFAMATION **Benefit Performance and Reception: Vito Russo's The Celluloid Closet**, the lecture based on his revised book of the same name, a documentary of how homosexuals have been depicted historically in films; at the Public Theatre, 425 Lafayette St; 3 pm performance, champagne reception follows; \$65 (+ \$60 for an autographed copy of Russo's book); 966-1700 (mail check to GLAAD by 12/8, 80 Varick St, #3E, NY, NY 10013)

SAGE **Basic Broadway - Part II**, in which "Professor Dossey will talk about the Post-Civil War period of the American Musical Theatre from 1860-1903"; in the SAGE room at The Center, 208 W 13 St; 4-6 pm; \$1 members/\$3 non-members; 741-2247

CENTER DANCE COMMITTEE **Winter Social**, hosted by Reno, with performances by cabaret artist David Ross, comedians Jaffe Cohen and Bob Smith; 208 W 13 St; 4-7 pm; free; 620-7310

CENTER DANCE COMMITTEE **"Tree of Life" Unveiling**, a tribute to those who have died of AIDS, with ornaments engraved with their names; will be on display through December 26; at

The Center, 208 W 13 St; 4 pm; info 889-4099

ST. CLEMENT'S CHURCH presents **The ARC Gospel Choir**, 35 voices of present or former residents of the Addicts Rehabilitation Center, in "a benefit for St. Clement's outreach to the homeless, hungry, people with AIDS"; 423 W 46 St; 7 pm; \$12 (deductible); rsvp 255-1654, press 582-8971

THE GLINES presents **Final Performance of Jane Chamber's My Blue Heaven**, ending the 4-week run; at the Courtyard Playhouse, 39 Grove St; 7 pm; \$12; 869-3530 (plays WED, THU, FRI at 8 pm; SAT at 6 & 9 pm; SUN at 7 pm)

JUDITH'S ROOM Book Party in honor of Ann Ferguson, *Blood at the Root*; Allison M. Jaggard & Susan R. Bordo, *Gender/Body/Knowledge*; Sara Ruddick, *Maternal Thinking*; Adrienne Harris & Ynestra King, *Rocking the Ship of State*; with wine and hors d'oeuvres; 681 Washington St (near Charles); 7:30 pm; free; 727-7330

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS THEATER STUDIO presents **Robert Patrick's The Haunted Host**, see DEC 8

THE VILLAGE GATE presents **Jokin' Off**, women comedians in a benefit for the Gay Men's Health Crisis, 9 pm, 586-1900

## SAVE THESE DATES

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

THE NETWORK **Holiday Party of 1000**  
GOD'S LOVE WE DELIVER **Fundraising Auction**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

NYC GAY & LESBIAN ANTI-VIOLENCE PROJECT **Holiday Celebration**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

GAY WOMEN'S ATHLETIC CLUB **Dance and Fundraiser**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

GOD'S LOVE WE DELIVER **Fundraising Auction**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

SAGE **Ring in the Holidays Social**  
NY AREA BISEXUAL NETWORK **Annual Holiday Party**  
CENTER KIDS **Holiday Party**  
MARANATHA: RIVERSIDERS FOR LESBIAN/GAY CONCERNS **Christmas Dinner**  
BROOKLYN MARTIAL ARTS **Benefit Concert: Casselberry-DuPree**

GIRTH AND MIRTH **Holiday Party** at the Center  
FRONT RUNNERS **Holiday Party** at Nimbus 22

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

PROFESSIONALS IN FILM/VIDEO **First Annual Holiday Party** at the Center

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

NEW YORK CITY GAY MEN'S CHORUS **10th Anniversary Holiday Concert**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

NEW YORK CITY GAY MEN'S CHORUS **10th Anniversary Holiday Concert**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH **Chanukah First Evening Dinner**



freeze out Jon Simmons, who is our community liaison coordinator, from any access to city hall.... COGLI and this community's direct access to the Office of the Mayor has been blocked."

Rolla continued, charging that at a meeting with Reiff and mayoral press officials, he had been told "to get on board" and affirm that COGLI's only function is to work for "the [1991] re-election of the mayor."

As Rolla elaborated, Daley jumped up and said, "I really object to you saying that I'm worried about my re-election.... I'm not freezing anybody out. I'm not taking an attitude of my re-election, whether it's Nancy or anybody. This is ridiculous.... I really object to that political statement."

Someone from the crowd then yelled, "Your brother hasn't died."

"Oh, come on," Daley pleaded. "My son died [of spina bifida] and you're trying to say I'm not human about people's illness in this city. Please, sir, don't ever do that to anybody in this city because you're really doing a disservice to the entire city."

Seconds later, Daley interrupted Savage to add, "I just want to make a point. There are people with political positions. I know, they're right here. Adios."

Daley and his assistants then stormed out as the crowd began chanting, "Shame, shame, shame," and ACT UP's Daniel Sotomayor repeatedly screamed, "How much, Nancy, how much?"

### City Hall Arrests

As the meeting broke up, those assembled were urged to attend an ACT UP demonstration outside City Hall the next day at noon.

About 200 people turned out for the protest, where mainstream activist Laurie Dittman told reporters, "We do not need any more house queers speaking for us.... They're already trying to divide us, trying to find individuals to pull away and say that we are not together, that our issues are not everyone's issues... but [don't] let them do that.... When they keep saying 'Be good little queers, be quiet, be patient and wait outside the door,' don't let them."

Chanting, "City Hall says get back,

we say fight back," the demonstrators then marched into the building. Fourteen activists sat down and linked arms in the center of the main corridor.

As TV cameras rolled, police violently tore the protestors apart and dragged them to a holding area.

After the last arrest, ACT UP's Sotomayor shouted, "We're going to the fifth floor!" Daley's office is on the fifth floor.

Sotomayor was immediately tackled by five police officers. One held him in a neck lock as another forcefully twisted his ear. He was charged with "disorderly conduct."

At press time, mayoral spokespersons and many gay/lesbian leaders were saying they deeply regretted the unpleasant nature of the community forum and the necessity to move towards civil disobedience and activism by media.

But gay leaders said their demands are not going to change and various administration officials continued phoning around the community in an attempt to determine how activists might respond to the possible moves the administration can now make. ▼

### ADOPTION from page 20

homes, then the children's interest is protected. That's what the department and the courts and our government should be trying to foster: good family life and support and protection for children in need."

The National Center for Lesbian Rights represented Michael Pesce and Jonathan Jarnig, whose story is featured in the current issue of *Newsweek* magazine's special edition, "The 21st Century Family." They were the first gay male couple in the nation to be approved as joint adoptive parents of son, James, and a daughter, Carly, earlier this year.

According to Achtenberg, the track record for gay individuals to adopt children is improving in New York and California, but lesbians and gays still stand in line behind married people for prime placements.

State law in Massachusetts prohibits gays from being foster parents, and New Hampshire and Florida have state laws that prohibit lesbian and gay adoptions. ▼

time that had passed since her dismissal, she had not once been invited to meet with Brandon to discuss the issue.

Marie Wilson and David Wertheimer, the two gay commissioners, were also outspoken concerning how seriously the committee had taken its mission and the distress they felt when its recommendations were not adopted in full.

Wilson emphasized the thoroughness with which the committee had tackled the question as to whether the AIDS Discrimination Division, under O'Connor and Taylor, had "served the whole community" and adamantly defended the committee's finding that they had performed "exemplary work in serving people of color," a comment that drew a brief round of applause from the observers attending the meeting.

Wertheimer's remarks were in an even stronger vein. He reiterated Neuborne's dismay that the precise charges against Taylor had never been revealed and went so far as to question the leadership structure of the HRC, saying that the way in which the controversy had been "resolved" by Brandon led him to believe that the other commissioners "are nothing but furniture...designed to catch the flak of various constituencies" but without any real power in decision making.

The commissioners' questions and comments elicited minimal response from Brandon during the public portion of the meeting. He opened the session by praising the committee's work, but pointed out that he had never been under any obligation to accept all—or, in fact, any—of its findings or recommendations.

### Unanimous Commendations

After about 40 minutes of public discussion, a motion was made the commission to go into executive session with the aim of tying up the matter as expeditiously as possible so that the commissioners could move on to other, pressing business. The motion was, however, interrupted by several of the observers present, who demanded time to air their grievances. This was allowed, though



Brandon imposed a ten-minute limit on audience comments, a time constraint that allowed about seven of those present to speak.

Those who did get a chance to talk were unanimous in their commendation of Taylor's and O'Connor's work for the AIDS Discrimination Division and expressed a consensus of outrage that the issue still had not been satisfactorily resolved.

The most eloquent objections were voiced by Ronald Johnson of the Minority Task Force on AIDS, who said that he was deeply distressed both by "the process and the effects of the process" that had led to O'Connor's and Taylor's removal. Johnson said that the result of the controversy had been to create "a false division between lesbians and gays and people of color."

Johnson's demand to be let in on exactly what was going on and his contention that the fight against AIDS was much too important to allow the kind of dissension the commissioner's actions had created were echoed by the other speakers. ▼

—Andrew Miller contributed to this article.

**DON'T BE  
PATRONIZING**

**UNLESS, OF  
COURSE, YOU'RE  
PATRONIZING  
OUR  
ADVERTISERS.  
REMEMBER,  
LESBIAN AND  
GAY BUSINESSES  
DEPEND ON YOUR  
SUPPORT.**

**AND C'MON—TELL  
'EM YOU SAW IT  
IN OUTWEEK.**

#### HOLLYWOOD from page 56

becoming a glaring omission.

What would the bland, materialistic couple in *Immediate Family* (Glenn Close and James Woods) have done if the lover of the unwed mother whose baby they covet turned out to be a woman, instead of the cuddly punk played by Kevin Dillon? Imagine Mary Stuart Masterson announcing, "This is Helen, my lover. We had broken up and I didn't want to raise the baby myself. But now we're back together and we're keeping the child." What if the teenage son in *Dad* had confessed to his father (Ted Danson) that he was moving in with another man, rather than joining a Mexican commune? "I'm dropping out of college to become a male model, Dad. And Luke is a great photographer. You'll like him." What if any one of the several pubescent or adolescent children in *Parenthood* had been found fondling a same-sex friend?

Hollywood producers don't want to know, because they assume moviegoers are opposed to those sorts of variations on the theme of family. Homosexuality, they believe, would disturb the placid waters on which pro-family pictures inevitably float: the eternal fount of procreation. These movies are all about how traditional American values pass from generation to generation, and Hollywood presumes to offer—and resolve—only those familial differences that fit within that scheme. The idea that lesbians and gay men were all, at one time, children and are not infrequently parents themselves is irrelevant, and the idea that gay lovers comprise a family, unthinkable.

To Hollywood, "family" doesn't mean a network of supportive interpersonal relationships, it means grandparents and babies. And lately, babies have meant boffo box office. *Three Men and a Baby* (the implications of which can wait for another time) was a huge hit and *Look Who's Talking* is shaping up to be one of the most profitable movies of the 80s. It's not just Bruce Willis's voice that does the trick; Heckerling's bitterly clever and aggressive exclusionary tactics are making audiences melt and snicker. The lesbian jokes are typical of a movie that also makes fun of bald men, old men (Abe Vigoda's nasty, toothless grand-

dad is a running joke) and buxom women (through the eyes of the prematurely hetero baby boy), and devalues intelligence or fair-mindedness in favor of prejudice and goopiness.

While *Look Who's Talking* is by far the most hostile of these films seeking to reconstruct the nuclear family, *Immediate Family* is equally exclusive, eliminating peripheral issues so ruthlessly that the central couple is left with nothing to characterize them save their wealth and their sterility. Their willful exploitation of a young woman in financial straits struck me as pathetic, particularly since the Masterson character is as full of life and passion as the yuppie couple is empty. *Dad* at least attempts a critique of restrictive familial roles: the Jack Lemmon character is so unhappy with suburban drudgery that he lives half the time in a rural fantasy. But when the old man dies, it's clear things will return to "normal." In all these films, the lack-of-wisdom of one generation is passed onto the next—not only to the children in the movies, but also to the children in the audience. ▼

#### WITNESSES from page 59

al consumed by a fireball, just as the AIDS fireball consumes the strength, financial resources and societal status of the PWA.

Coping and questioning introspection are the power evident in Darrel Ellis' two 1989 ink on paper self-portraits juxtaposed with the inspiring yet haunting photo portraits of Ellis by Peter Hujar and Robert Mapplethorpe. The two acrylic paintings by Taboo! Stephen Tashjian (one a portrait of Mark Morrisroe) speak to the unescapable tragedy of AIDS and the ambivalence toward our society by those of us living daily with its effects.

As we enter AIDS' second decade, the political opposition and the direct action by the lesbian, gay, artist and civil liberties communities in order to protect *Witnesses* speak volumes about the real progress we have made with our government in dealing with issues of this crisis. There's lots of surface drama and not much else. ▼

# Community Directory

## A.C.C.C.

**AIDS CENTER OF QUEENS COUNTY  
SOCIAL SERVICES • EDUCATION • BUDDIES COUN-  
SELING • SUPPORT GROUPS**  
Volunteer Opportunities  
(718) 896-2500(voice) (718) 896-2985(TDD)

**ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power)**  
496A Hudson Street, Suite G4 NYC 10014  
(212) 989-1114

A diverse, non-partisan group of individuals united in anger and committed to direct action to end the AIDS crisis. Gen. meetings Mon. nights 7:30, the Community Center 208 W.13th.

## ARCS (AIDS-Related Community Services)

for Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester counties. AIDS education, client services, crisis intervention, support groups, case management, buddy and hospital visitor program.

214 Central Ave., White Plains, NY 10606 (914) 963-0606  
838 Broadway, Newburgh, NY 12250 (914) 562-5005  
AIDSline (914) 993-0607

## BAR ASSOCIATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Lawyers Referral  
Service for the Lesbian and Gay Community  
Full Range of Legal Services (212) 459-4873

## BAR ASSOCIATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Free Walk-in Legal Clinic. Tuesday 6-8 pm  
Lesbian & Gay Community Centr. Ground Floor

## PRIDE FOCUS GROUP

Topical discussions on issues of interest to the community in a congenial atmosphere, followed by an informal dinner at a friendly local restaurant. Every Sunday, 3:00 - 4:30pm at the Community Center 208 W. 13 Street, NYC. Part of the New York Area Bisexual Network.

## BIDS (BISEXUAL DOMINANCE & SUBMISSION GROUP)

Share S/M experiences and fantasies with others in a positive, non-judgemental atmosphere. First Sunday of the month, 4:45pm at the Community Center 208 W. 13 Street, NYC. This group is part of the New York Area Bisexual Network.

## BIWAYS NEW YORK

Monthly (or more frequent) social events for the Bisexual community and friends. Dates, times and locations vary. Call NYABN for details of upcoming events. Planning meetings held quarterly. This group is part of the New York Area Bisexual Network.

## BIPAC (BISEXUAL POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE)

Political action on issues of importance to the Bisexual/Lesbian/Gay community. Monthly meeting/potluck held 8:00pm on fourth Thursday of the month at members homes. Call NYABN for this month's location. This group is part of the New York Area Bisexual Network.

## BISEXUAL YOUTH

Informal social & support group for Bisexual kids/youth. Monthly meeting/potluck lunch held 1:00pm on fourth Sunday of the month at members homes. Call NYABN for this month's location. This group is part of the New York Area Bisexual Network.

## BLUS-BRONX LESBIANS UNITED IN SISTERHOOD

Social, political and support networking group for women and their friends. Regular social events and meetings on the first and third Friday's of every month. At The Community Center, 208 W. 13 Street, from 6:30-8pm. For more info call Lisa at (212) 829-9817.

## BODY POSITIVE

If you or your lover has tested HIV+, we offer support groups, seminars, public forums, reference library, referrals, social activities and up-to-date national monthly, **"THE BODY POSITIVE"** (\$15/year).  
(212) 633-1782  
2095 Broadway, Suite 306, NYC, NY 10023

## CIRCLE OF MORE LIGHT

Spiritual support and sharing in a gay/lesbian affirmative group.

West-Park Presbyterian Church  
165 West 86th Street

Wed: worship service 6:30 p.m., program 7:30.  
Marsha (212) 304-4373 Charlie (212) 691-7118

## COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

208 West 13th Street, NYC, New York 10011  
For Appointments and Information (212) 675-3559  
PROVIDING CARING, SENSITIVE AND LOW COST  
HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO THE LESBIAN AND GAY COMMUNITY

## COMMUNITY RESEARCH INITIATIVE

PWA's, PWARC's & their physicians taking the initiative to seek promising intervention against AIDS in a resp. manner. For more info or to volunteer please call (212) 481-1050.

## CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH

NY's Gay and Lesbian Synagogue Services  
Friday at 8:30pm 57 Bethune Street  
For info, call: (212) 929-9498.

## DIGNITY NEW YORK

lesbian and gay Catholics and friends  
AIDS Ministry, Spiritual Development.  
The Cathedral Project.  
Worship Services & Social-Sun. Eves. 7:30pm-St. John's Episcopal Church 218 West 11th Street @ Waverly-675-2179

## EDGE

For the physically disabled Lesbian and Gay Community. (212) 989-1921  
P.O. Box 305 Village Station, New York, NY 10014

## FEMME SUPPORT GROUP

For lesbians who self identify as Femme. For info and meeting times call Lisa at (212) 829-9817. No men please.

## FRONT RUNNERS

A running club for lesbian and gay athletes of all abilities. Fun Runs of 1-6 miles held every Sat. at 10am and Weds. at 7pm in Central Park and every Tues. at 7pm in Prospect Park.  
For information: call (212) 724-9700.

## THE FUND FOR HUMAN DIGNITY

National Gay and Lesbian Crisis Line  
"AIDS 800"---1-800-SOS-GAYS  
Educational Resource Center; Positive Images Media Center; NY State Arts Program  
666 B'way Suite 410 NYC, NY 10012 (212) 529-1600

## THE GAY AFRICAN AMERICANS OF WESTCHESTER (The G.A.A.)

is a community based support group formed in Westchester County. Various activities are planned for the coming months.  
Please call 914-376-0727 for more info.

## GLAAD

Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation  
80 Varick Street, NYC 10013 (212) 966-1700 GLAAD combats homophobia in the media and elsewhere by promoting visibility of the lesbian and gay community and organizing grassroots response to anti-gay bigotry.

## GAY & LESBIAN HEALTH CONCERNS

An office of the NYC Dept. of Health, provides linkages between NYC Health & Human Svcs. and the Lesbian & Gay community, focusing in ALL health concerns; resource information for health services consumers and providers. 125 Worth Street, Box 67, New York, NY 10013. For info call (212) 566-4995.

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(212) 727-9878.

## GMAD (GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT)

80 Varick Street, NYC 10013 a support group of Gay Men of African Descent dedicated to consciousness-raising and the development of the Lesbian and Gay Community. GMAD is inclusive of African, African-American, Caribbean and Hispanic/Latino men of color. Meetings are held, weekly, on Fridays. For more information, call 718-802-0162.

## GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS HOTLINE

FOR INFORMATION ON SAFER SEX AND HIV-RELATED HEALTH SERVICES, AND FOR INFORMATION ON ONE-TIME, WALK-IN AIDS COUNSELING SERVICES  
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212-645-7470 TDD (For the Hearing Impaired)  
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## HEAL (Health Education AIDS Liaison)

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## LAVA (LESBIANS ABOUT VISUAL ART)

Call for slides for Lesbian Artists' Exhibition, Gay & Lesbian Community Center, NYC. For more information, send SASE to:  
Miriam Fougere  
118 Fort Greene Place  
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#### LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS PROJECT of the American Civil Liberties Union KNOW YOUR RIGHTS / WE'RE EXPANDING THEM

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#### MOCA

Men of Color AIDS Prevention Program. Provides safer sex and AIDS education information to gay and bisexual Men of Color; coordinates a network of health education providers and peer-support groups for gay and bisexual Men of Color in all 5 boroughs of New York City. MOCA is located at 303 Ninth Ave, New York, NY 10001, or call (212) 239-1796.

#### NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE

is the national grassroots political organization for lesbians and gay men. Membership is \$30/year. Issue-oriented projects address violence, sodomy laws, AIDS, gay rights ordinances, families, media, etc. through lobbying, education, organizing and direct action.

NGLTF 1517 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20005.  
(202) 332-6483.

#### NEW YORK ADVERTISING AND COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

NYACN is the community's largest gay and lesbian professional group, welcoming all in communications--advertising, PR, marketing, media, graphic design, illustration, photography, copywriting, journalism, publishing, radio, TV and film--and their friends. Monthly meetings, 3rd Wed 6:30pm at the Community Center. Members' newsletter, job hotline, annual directory. Phone (212) 517-0380 for more info. Mention OutWeek for one free newsletter.

#### NINTH STREET CENTER

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#### NORTH AMERICAN MAN/BOY LOVE ASSOCIATION (NAMBLA)

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#### NORTHERN LIGHTS ALTERNATIVES

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#### SAGE (Senior Action in a Gay Environment)

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#### THE OUTREACH

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a program of Brooklyn community volunteers providing a weekly buffet supper for the Brooklyn AIDS community. Occasional programs of information, education and entertainment. TOUCH meets Monday eves. 8pm. to 8:30pm. at downtown Brooklyn Friends Meeting House (110 Schermerhorn St. near Boerum Place). Limited transportation may be arranged. Info: (718) 622-2756. TOUCH welcomes contributions of funds, food and volunteers.

#### ULSTER COUNTY GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE

Meets first and third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church on Sawkill Road in Kingston.  
For information, call (914) 626-3203.

#### OUT TAKES from page 26

meeting. A two-thirds vote of approval by schools represented at any meeting is required to amend the bylaws. A proposed affirmative action policy would not, however, extend to the hiring of gay and lesbian professors.

A survey by the Association's Section on Gay and Lesbian Legal Issues determined that several dozen schools, including Harvard, Yale and Stanford, have already adopted such policies, and that many schools are located in cities which bar employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

The American Bar Association, the largest legal organization in the country, adopted a resolution last February urging governmental bodies at all levels to adopt laws and policies banning sexual orientation discrimination, and the National Association for Law Placement adopted a statement several years ago urging member law schools to ban such discrimination in their placement offices.

The AALS Executive Committee proposal recognizes an exemption from the non-discrimination requirement for school with a "religious affiliation or purpose" for whom such a policy would be inconsistent with religious teaching. The committee has also proposed an ambiguous regulation that would excuse schools from complying with the sexual orientation provision if such compliance would "violate" any "state law." This regulation, proposed as part of a "compromise" to secure passage in the Executive Committee, is expected to become the subject of considerable debate at the meeting.

The AALS action may put additional pressure on the U.S. Defense Department to reconsider its gay exclusionary policy, since the non-discrimination proposal would extend to law school placement offices. Several of the nation's leading law schools already bar the Defense Department from recruiting military lawyers at their Placement Offices, including Columbia, NYU and New York Law School. If the non-discrimination proposal passes, many more schools may interpret it as requiring the exclusion of military recruiters.

—Art Leonard

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# PERSONALS

**MIDHUDSON VALLEY**  
Newburgh/Pokeepsie  
area, GWM, 41, 5'9", at-  
tractive, beard, stocky  
build, drk blind/bl gry,  
sense of humor, creative,  
intelligent, spiritual, cul-  
tured, warm, ISO, non-  
smoking, area lover/com-  
panion/friend, 30-50,  
similar qualities & sense  
of values. Any race ok,  
but prefer dark, hairy,  
stocky/muscular/wiry.  
Discretion & your place  
needed. Photo (returned)  
& phone, please. Box-  
holder, PO Box 52, Glen-  
ham, NY 12527.

## STUD SEEKS SEX BUDDY

Nice-guy stud with lover  
seeks safe sex buddy on  
the side. I am GWA, 35,  
6'1", 190, Brd, shldrs,  
masc, muscular, ath-  
letic, smooth BB, GQ  
type w/out attitude. Am  
not seeking lover, just  
lean, masc, musc, sex  
buddy. Friendly hard-bod-  
ied non-kinky guy for un-  
complicated sex needed,  
22-42 yrs. Race unimpor-  
tant. Photo pls, will rtn.  
Outweek Box 1767

## HANDSOME NYU STUDENT

Jock, 25, Italian, slim,  
athletic, clean-cut, gentle  
yet strong, fun, seeks at-  
tractive, submissive,  
femme-TV-TS to service  
me off. Campus after  
workouts/classes PO  
Box 20015, NYC, 10028.

**GUARD ON DUTY**  
GWM, 21, 5'9", 140 lbs.,  
very cute college life-  
guard, new to scene and  
shy when meeting men  
seeks other attractive  
GWM to 28. Photo/

phone a must to Brian,  
P.O. Box 219, SUNY,  
Binghamton, NY, 13901.

## COMPLEX AND CUTE

I'm a dark-haired, lean  
and handsome GWM,  
40, 5'9", 150 lbs., into  
movies, politics, theatre  
and friends. I'd like to  
meet a smart, cute and  
sensitive guy (probably  
younger) to enjoy life  
with. Photo (if possible)  
POB 1123, NYC, 10011.

## TEACHER, 45

Oh, by the way, I forgot  
to tell you that I'm an in-  
telligent, sensitive man,  
who seeks a man who is  
willing to WORK on a re-  
lationship. Perhaps we  
are those two men.  
Please write to David,  
Box 20089, NYC, 10017.

## DOMINATE ME

Talented, loyal man with  
good accounting skills  
seeks fairminded em-

to Richard, POB 2153,  
Cliffside Park, NJ 07010.

## CUTE, I'M TOLD, 35

year old pre-op TS, re-  
turning to NYC soon,  
seeks friend/lover, and  
possible roommate situa-  
tion. I am tall (6') slender  
(155lbs) with smooth  
hairless body. Can be in-  
to most scenes as long  
as they involve me as  
passive bottom. Honesty  
a must. If you've consid-

and hopefully more. Pls  
send photo/phone/itr to  
Outweek Box 1782

## BALLS

Give yours to me to  
workover for our mutual  
pleasure. I am a 6'4", 40  
year old with a great feel  
for testicles. Young and  
curious to experienced-  
all comers. Robert, P.O.  
Box 10 NYC, 10014.

## KOSHER GWM INTO S/M

Attr, intel GJM seeks  
similar sgls or cpls for  
talk, Shabbat, movies  
and maybe more. Me:  
5'11", 190, brh, 36. In-  
terests include existen-  
tialism, masochism, so-  
cial service, cocksucking,  
theatre. You: strong but  
not selfish. Ltr and phone  
(foto a +) to PO Box  
2520 Times Square Sta-  
tion, NYC, 10108.

## IT TAKES TWO:

GWF, 21, 5'6" femme,  
black spikey hair, (Joan  
Jett lover), into wearing  
black, rock and metal  
music, concerts, gay  
clubs. Learning guitar.  
Seeking a hot-blooded  
caring GWF, 19-25+,  
very pretty butch/femme  
into same, with dark hair  
pref. (black and spikey).  
Looking for special  
friendship and hopefully  
an intimate, monoga-  
mous relationship.  
Smoker preferred. No  
drugs. Please send a de-  
tailed letter, phone and  
photo if possible to P.O.  
Box 645 Peck Slip Sta-  
tion, New York, NY  
10272.

## BIWM, 21, 6', TAN

and blond seeking other  
BIWM who knows the  
meaning of relationships  
and is not into bars. I'm  
Romantic, arts student,  
involved in NYC art  
world, into outdoors,  
monogamy. Drop me a  
line soon if you're under  
30, with a photo. Box  
402 SUNY, Purchase,  
NY 10577-1400.

## WAWY!!!

GWM, 27, writer, very  
funny, very bright, very  
hairy. Loves: The B-52's,  
Douglas Sirk movies,  
British magazines, polka  
dots, hot hors d'oeuvres,  
"Munsters" reruns, ice  
cream in pints, tall men  
who look good in baggy  
grey sweatpants, french  
doors, Warhol's Tuna-fish  
Disaster, and the taste of  
coffee first thing in the

## PERSONALS OF THE WEEK

### WAWY!!!

GWM, 27, writer, very funny, very bright,  
very hairy. Loves: The B-52's, Douglas  
Sirk movies, British magazines, polka  
dots, hot hors d'oeuvres, "Munsters" re-  
runs, ice cream in pints, tall men who  
look good in baggy grey sweatpants,  
french doors, Warhol's Tuna-fish Disas-  
ter, and the taste of coffee first thing in  
the morning. Hates: Sade, Stephen  
King novels, dinner partners who stack  
plates, low-vamp shoes, small dreams,  
Greek food, a lack of disco apprecia-  
tion, impersonal apartments, and any-  
one who watches "thirtysomething" be-  
cause it reminds him so much of his  
own life. Would like to meet a bright,  
funny sensitive man, 24-35, with a

love/hate list of his own. Send it and a  
picture (it doesn't have to be of you) to  
Outweek Box 1787

### IT TAKES TWO:

GWF, 21, 5'6" femme, black spikey hair,  
(Joan Jett lover), into wearing black,  
rock and metal music, concerts, gay  
clubs. Learning guitar. Seeking a hot-  
blooded caring GWF, 19-25+, very pre-  
tty butch/femme into same, with dark  
hair pref. (black and spikey). Looking  
for special friendship and hopefully an  
intimate, monogamous relationship.  
Smoker preferred. No drugs. Please  
send a detailed letter, phone and photo  
if possible to P.O. Box 645 Peck Slip  
Station, New York, NY 10272.

### ACTIVIST

Politically progressive  
GM in 40's, attractive,  
seeking male 40 to 50.  
Any race to date. In-  
volved in HIV-related  
work professionally. Also  
volunteer. Love music  
Classical, R&B, Jazz,  
film. Am a publi hed writ-  
er and poet. No drugs/al-  
cohol. Write Outweek  
Box 1777

ployer (M) who believes  
in old-fashioned disci-  
pline. ood salary expect-  
ed. Relocation/travel o.k.  
BJ, PO Box 382, Bay-  
side, NY 11364.

### FUN GUY FROM NJ

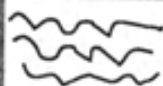
GWM, 38, 6', 200 lbs.,  
Irish/Italian. I enjoy  
movies, theatre, music  
and sometime couch  
potato. I'm looking for  
friendship/safe sex bud-  
dy who is healthy. write

ered a relationship with a  
sincere she-male, don't  
pass up this opportunity!  
I am a quality person and  
need a quality man in my  
life. Photo appreciated  
but not necessary. PO  
Box 1659, Greensboro,  
NC 27402.

### RU THE ONE

GF, Hispanic, 31, 5'2",  
seeks attractive, fun-  
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morning. Hates: Sade, Stephen King novels, dinner partners who stack plates, low-vamp shoes, small dreams, Greek food, a lack of disco appreciation, impersonal apartments, and anyone who watches "thirtysomething" because it reminds him so much of his own life. Would like to meet a bright, funny sensitive man, 24-35, with a love/hate list of his own. Send it and a picture (it doesn't have to be of you) to Outweek Box 1787

### ELVIS LIVES!

Wild and crazy, yet serious and sensitive hip professional GWM (29, br, bl, 150, 5'11") Lower East Sider who enjoys films, books, live music and theatre seeks smart and cute potential partner 25-35 to create the quintessential NYC life together. (Exene fans a plus) Write and send photo today! P.O. Box 5 NY, NY 10185.

4 STAR OR PIZZA,  
Irving or Guisewite,  
Pachelbel or House, di-

verse 28 year old handsome GWM seeks mate. Me: 5'8", 155 lbs., Grn/Brn, gym body built for hugs, mind geared for laughter and soul made to share. Photo and letter- Outweek Box 1789

### KINKY NEOPHYTE

GWM, Upper West Side, wants to learn kinky safe sex. 31, 5'10", 150lbs, Brn/Gr, pretty face, masc. You: clean-cut, filthy mind, creative, 28-40. Experienced mentor or another novice ok. I'm HIV-; so must you be. PO Box 0734, Planetarium Station, NYC, 10024-0734.

### DADDY'S BOY

GWM, 37, 210lbs, hry chest, seeks son for dinner, movies, sex, role play (Daddy's pleasure & possibly yours) Poss rela t. Prefer smooth & large pistol but will consider others. Repls with photo, letter, tel no., get Ans too: Dad, LTS, 20276, NYC, 10011.

### TAKE IT OFF!

Take it all off! And strut your stuff for admiring group of 6-10 friends

(30ish). Dance a little & have a lot of fun. Send photo & requirements to PO Box 5725, Woolsey Station, LIC, NY 11105. Good dancer preferred. Cute, hot, boyish body required.

### 400 POUNDS PLUS

GWM, 37, 210lbs, seeks very fat man for good times, dinner, movies, safe sex, possible relationship, for the guy who steals my heart. Repls with explicit photo, letter, tel no., get answer. Write BML, 20053, LTS, NYC, 10011.

### I WOULD LIKE TO MEET

A well built BI or Gay masc guy for friendship and/or reltnshp. Me: GWM, 39, 5'10", 170lbs, Masc, Gdkg, clean-cut, discreet. I have a car - Surburbs ok. Box 1534, Madison Square Stn, NY 10159.

### ATHLETES ONLY

Handsome, well defined, jock, 29, 5'6", 140lbs, BI/Gr, Hung-Uncut/8". Seeks other athletes only, 18-35, for erotic workouts. Hard Bodies a

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earth body lover. Funky vir-  
ile sexskinicous, cock inde-  
fatigable, cum home Rock-  
away, blow my mind, am in  
arm tongue on tongue,  
ablaze astride inside each  
other's fuckforever true gay  
wow! Photo/Phone gets  
mine. David, c/o Boxholder,  
PO Box 1251, New York,  
NY 10013.

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COSMOPOLITAN MAN;**  
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Conservative lifestyle, 50-60,  
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Outweek Box 1762.

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CHEST**  
Desperately looking to  
be stroked. I'm 33, 5'8",  
165lbs, bearded with  
black curly hair. I like  
travel, books, politics,  
dining out, theatre,  
movies, music, camping,  
hiking, and candlelight  
dinners. If you're 35 or  
younger and have a

smooth chest, drop me a  
line. GL #15F, 496 Hud-  
son, New York, NY  
10014. Let's spend a  
weekend in bed!

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Attr guy 43, 6', 160lbs,  
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knee and pull down your  
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till you promise to be-  
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not pain. Beginners wel-  
come. Box 1316, FDR  
STN, NYC, 10150. Sin-  
cere replies only.

**INEXPERIENCED?**  
New to the scene? Very  
hot BM, 6', 180lbs, 30's,  
wants to be your sexual  
mentor. Don't be shy.  
Let's share long, caring,  
erotic times at my place.  
Take a chance. Write:  
PO Box 786, New York,  
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**FALL ROMANCE**  
GWM, 32, 6'3", hndsm,  
prof and athl swimmer's  
build seeks similar  
GWM, clean-cut for fall  
Romance, fun and explora-  
tion of the physical and  
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waiting, so send r ph/ph  
ASAP. Outweek Box  
1301

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a moon lit beach, being  
snowed in, Mon Night Fi-  
Ball, hot sex, pass/love,  
sharing & caring. Me:  
GM, 27, 6' & 210. Y:GM,  
24-44, tall, dark. We both:  
Prof, and MN based on  
1st date. We want 2 get  
to know each other and  
have lasting relation-  
ships. Lets travel new  
roads to enrich our love  
4 each other. Love is al-  
so roses on Sunday, din-  
ner 4 2, a romantic hide-  
away, finding that special  
love & celebrating each  
day together. Outweek  
Box 1514

**HAD TO BE YOU?**  
GWM, 28 5'6" 145 lbs.  
brown/moustache Cuban  
film buff seeks GM 25-35  
to share popcorn and  
other good things. Pho-  
to/phone/letter POB  
2522 West NY, NJ  
07093. No drugs/smok-  
ing or bull-

**"ANOREXOPHILE"**  
GWM, 35, 6'-1", 165 sol-  
id lbs., masculine, safe,  
secure, often sane, Ivy  
grad, homeowner; likes  
skiing, cycling, arts, me-  
chanics; seeks honest



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**GM, 24 to 36, with in-**  
nate, truly toothpick-thin  
build and no chemical  
dependencies, for perm.  
relationship. Please reply  
(include interests, height,  
weight) to P.O. Box  
9252, Morristown, NJ  
07963.

**LOOKING FOR YOU**  
GWM, Jewish, 40's, 5'7",  
195lbs, easy going, fun  
loving, prof guy looking  
for Masculine man to  
share good times with  
photo/phone PO Box 31  
Jackson Hts NY 11372.

**CHUBBY TOP SEEKS  
BOTTOM**  
GWF, chubby top seeks  
slim submissive GF for  
fun & maybe more.  
Metro area, phone a  
must, photo pls. Write  
Outweek Box 1651

**NEED QUICK FIX**  
You combine looks and  
habits of Nick Cave with  
Ian Curtis anguish. I will  
supply the boredom. I  
like pallor and earrings,  
dislike pets and muscles.  
Skinny literates a +.  
Write and send four pho-  
tobooth snaps. Age 25-  
35. Outweek Box 1653

**SWEET JEWISH MAN**  
Looking for winter sweet-  
heart to share passion  
for Shicoff & Schubert,  
Otra Haza & the Hambo.  
33, Br/Hzi 5'10", 160lbs,  
bearded, musician seeks  
warm, hairy Jewish man  
for shabbes mitsva dance.  
Oh, and I can cook, too!  
Letter, PH/PH to: Out-  
week Box 1663

**HEALTHY WASPY  
HANDSOME**  
40's, 5'7", 125lbs, Br/Br,  
seeks similar for safe sex &  
close friendship. No hard  
drugs or obese please.  
Write Outweek Box 1670

**ABSOLUT BOTTOM  
SEEKS  
ABSOLUT TOP  
FOR  
ABSOLUT 100% PLEA-  
SURE.  
(STRAIGHT UP)  
MIKE 212-969-8769  
(24 hr voice mail)  
SALUTE!**

**J/O BUDDIES**  
GWM, 40, 5'11", 165 #,  
looking for men who love  
hot J/O sessions. Ex-  
hib./voy. videos. Extra  
hung and or hairy a +.  
Photo/Phone to Box 126,  
70A Greenwich Avenue,  
New York, NY 10011.

**HUNGRY FOR LOVE**  
GWM, Hispanic, 35,  
5'10", 165#, hairy chest,  
moustache, attractive,  
sincere, educated, witty,  
smart, myriad interests.  
Seeks sparkling friend-  
ship with goodloo king,  
neat, bright, romantic,  
sensitive Asian 18-29,  
smooth body, thick, stra-  
ight hair, nice smile. Both  
of us are affectionate,  
caring and love to learn,  
laugh, kiss and enjoy life.  
Send detailed letter/photo  
in confidence. Let's meet  
and get started. Outweek  
Box 1677

**COLLEGE GUY**  
I'm an adventurous,  
attractive, tall, blonde, nice  
guy looking for fun. I'm  
21, 6'1", an artist with a  
good trim body, 160 lb.,  
top, who seeks a new  
dating, sexual, or rela-  
tionship adventure (while  
playing safe) with a fun  
guy who is in shape, un-  
der 30, and has a good  
sense of humor. A recent  
photo a must. Outweek  
Box 1678

**DOMINANT**  
Intelligent highly ego-  
centered MASTER look-  
ing to own, control, hu-

milate and abuse willing  
slave who will give him-  
self over and follow MY  
directions. Stats unim-  
portant. ATTITUDE is!  
Submit application and  
phone number to P.O.  
Box 292, NY 10024.

**R U MAN ENUF?**  
Musc handsome GWM,  
Br/Br 5'10" 175, 34, wks  
out, has rel, seeks well-  
def very musc. guy for  
hot wkday SS. FR A/P  
chest hair a must. YR pic  
gets mine, Box 306,  
Bklyn, NY 11217.

**GLORY HOLE SERVICE**  
Hot, no nonsense cock-  
sucker, 34, really gets  
down for major dudes  
hung bigger than me  
(10") Looks, age, race  
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Just be hot and ready for  
a rootmilkin you won't  
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J/O no fats. Duke (212)  
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Gay male couple mid-  
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Hottest  
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## Safer Sex Guidelines

- 1. USE A CONDOM WHEN FUCKING.** Avoid oil-based lubricants such as baby oil, Vaseline, Crisco etc., as they can cause condoms to break. Instead use water-based lubes like KY. The older a condom, the less reliable, so find condoms whose manufacturers' dates are less than three months old.
- 2. USE A CONDOM DURING ORAL SEX.** If you don't, avoid placing the head of your partner's cock in your mouth. HIV-infected cum or pre-cum can enter your bloodstream through cuts, tears or ulcers in your mouth.
- 3. USE DENTAL DAMS DURING ORAL-VAGINAL SEX.** HIV is present in some amounts in vaginal secretions, urine, menstrual blood, and infection-related vaginal discharge.
- 4. NEVER SHARE WORKS.** This includes needles, syringes, droppers, spoons, cottons or cookers. If you must reuse works, clean them after each use with bleach, or in an emergency with rubbing alcohol or vodka, by drawing the solution into the needle three times and then drawing clean water into the needle three times.
- 5. AVOID FISTING, RIMMING, OR SHARING UNCLEANNED SEX TOYS.**
- 6. AVOID POPPERS.**
- 7. AVOID EXCESSIVE ALCOHOL OR DRUG USE.** Many people are unable to maintain safer sex practices after getting high.
- 8. DON'T HESITATE TO:** Fuck with a condom, have oral sex with a condom. Play with, but don't share, clean sex toys, vibrators and dildoes. Enjoy massage, hugging, masturbation (alone, with a partner or in a group), and role-playing.

Remember, sex is good, and gay sex is great. Don't avoid sex, just avoid the virus. Learn to eroticize safer sex and you can protect others, remain safe and have fun.

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MANSCAN - Exclusive one on one rematch feature

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*Private links and our computerized  
Probability of matching pairs.  
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Must be 18 years or older.  
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humor a must. Write Box 697 Midwood New York 11230.

### YOUR NAME IS ...

Jack. You are a GWM, 28, gym body, dark hair, IQ 138, HIV neg, an Actor, recently moved here from LA, attend Unity, drink Ricard, do some writing, believe in "Do It Now!" I'm like you, handsome, warm, pinning, seek love and support. Let's meet! Ph/Ph to Box 7493, NYC, 10163.

### INSATIABLE FR/A

Attr 40 yr blond, very oral and HIV neg, sks well-hung FR/P for hot times. I'm talented, O...-educated, affectionate. Age and race not as important as dick & attitude. Photo a plus. Write Fox, P.O. Box 20161, Midtown Station, New York City 10129.

### LOVING TOP

52, 5'6", 135, HIV-, 8", gentle but masterful seeks 18-35, slim, passionate, devoted boy who's eager to serve and please. Write phone # and tell me why we together could have the world. Outweek Box 1708

### GAY AND INTERACIAL

GJM, 40, 5'10", 155 lbs., cute, blue eyes and wise desires masculine black top man, 30 and older. Sensitive and mature to explore who we are. Foto/phone if possible. P.O. Box 20, NYC, NY 10012.

### GUYS IN SUITS

Professional, GWM, 31, with eclectic tastes looking for Wall Street type who know how to leave the office behind. Am br/br, 145, clean shaven, work out, look good. Photo/phone to Outweek Box 1712

### SPIRITUALLY DEVOTED

(not religious) Passionately feeling GF/musician with Day Gig seeking emotionally supportive, artistically romantic non-smok GF who is emotionally spiritually physically attuned. Write Outweek Box 1713

### WHO READS ADS?

I don't either, but thought I'd try something different. GWM, successful, seeking best friend and

lover. Financial Executive with diverse interests: Gay Men's Chorus, counseling, Co-Chairman of my church's Gay Fellowship. Looking for someone who responds to the person I am: good sense of humor, romantic, interests outside of self, tall and attractive. Write Outweek Box 1714

### HERE I AM!

Dashing GWM, Br/Bl, 6', 160lbs, 44yrs, Furloving, Ivy-ed, Manhattan, prof. HIV-neg. seeks trim, handsome, healthy, happy, guy, 25-45 (hairy a big +) for dates, safe sex, eventual relationship. Enjoy NYC, arts & culture, weekends away, travel. Send letter, phone #, photo to: Box 2278, New York, NY 10008.

### ROMANTIC ARTIST

Loving passionate artist/designer, 37yr, Wm looking to meet a similar guy who is sensitive, caring, loving, intuitive, creative, witty, healthy, loving guy for relationship. Please write with photo. PO Box 843, New York, NY 10163.

### SOMEONE LIKE ME

A Man's man who knowingly has nothing to hide and doesn't need to tell the world of his sexual preference simply because it's not necessary. Someone who's watched guys give his handsome masc/musc appearance the once-over: guys who never imagined that he, too, was a GWM. We alike so far? Read on. Someone who now needs a significant friend/buddy/lover: age 30+, height comparable to weight, a solid, well-defined body and mind is most important; clean shaven and smooth a -. Let's be two hot guys who aren't bothered by society's stupidity and ignorance and who'll sleep in each other's arms after a hot sweaty session of love-making. Pass this by and you'll regret it. Only serious bottoms need reply. Photo/Phone/ Letter. Write Outweek Box 1722.

### LATIN BUTCH SEEKS LATIN FEMME

GWF, 29, 5'2", honest and educated. Likes all sports & music, seeks a

# HOT GAY ACTION

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990-6900**

## 24 HOURS

\$1 a min. \$2 the first



[illegible]

**HOT RECORDED FANTASIES • \$3.50 PER CALL**

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 .40 first minute, .15 each additional minute. Must be 18 or older

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 .40 first minute, .15 each additional minute. Must be 18 or older

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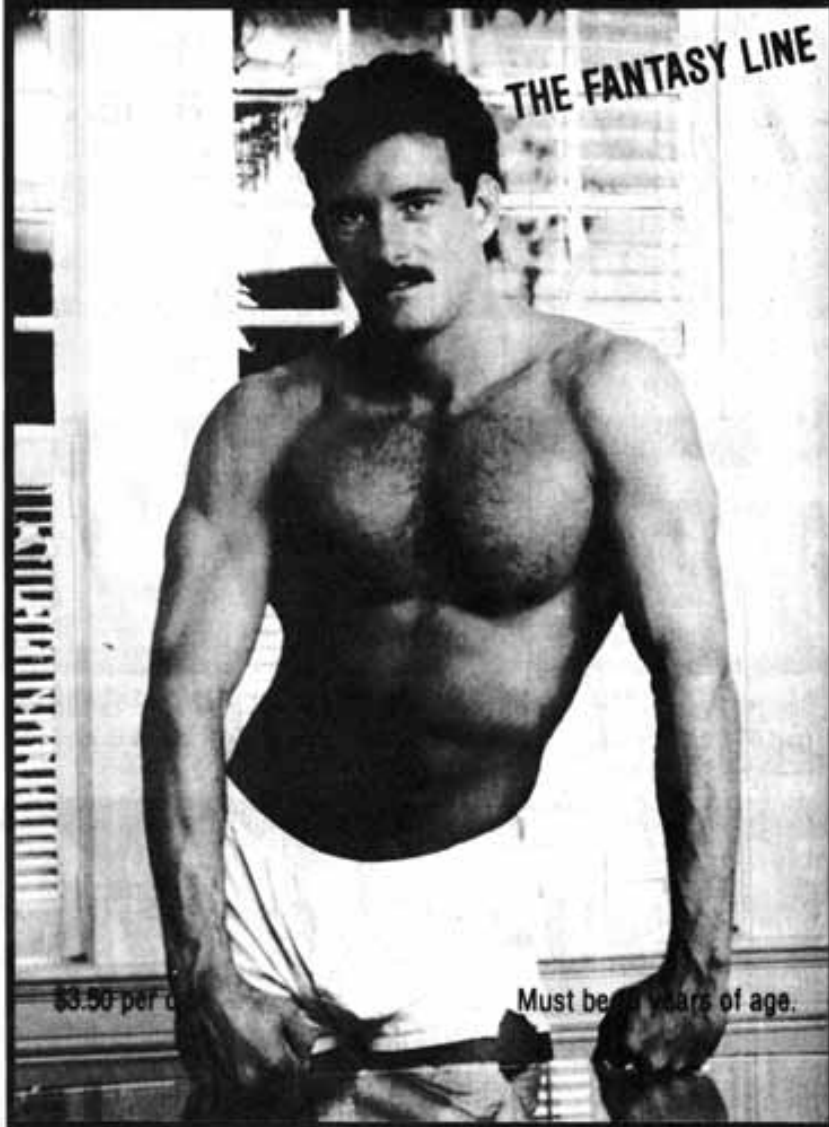


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**970-3425**

**THE FANTASY LINE**



\$3.50 per d

Must be 21 years of age.

Latin lady, 20-35 Lesbian, who likes to share special moments & maybe a serious relationship. I speak Spanish. Please no drugs & Butches. Outweek Box 1723

## BE MY GUEST

European show biz Executive WM, 45, 6'1", 180lb, in good health/shape, will host you at good restaurants theater, movies, travel and nights of intellectual and sexual (f/ap-safe) stimulation. Be WM, 25-30, gd lk, ctn shyn, good body/mind, Grad student of employed professional, ready/able to relate personally/sexually to a person older than you. No games (sex is part of the "deal") no hustlers, drugs, or excessive alcohol. Write Ph/Ph, POBox 8324, New York, NY 10150-1918.

## GBF 40 LOOKING

Seeks GF 35-50 who appreciates a loving woman-loves dancing, does not smoke, rarely drinks, works hard, loves our gay community, is honest & aggressive-let's talk. Write PO Box 437 Prince Street Stn, New York, NY 10012.

## HOT BOTTOM SPANKING

Very goodlooking Gd Build GWM 34, 6'2", 190lb, Hot Bottom wants Hot Top for safe GR/Spanking/Toys/ENM etc. Especially like big guys my age or older, or hung, or muscular, but like all top guys into tits and my great butt. Write Box 1602 Old Chelsea Stn, New York, NY 10011.

## LIFE IS

So much better when shared with someone special. I could be that someone. Goodlooking, GBM, 30yrs, 5'9", 150lbs, desires to relocate and start a new, with you. A mature, sincere, affluent, and indulgent kind of guy who would enjoy my company, for dining, movies, walks, quiet evenings at home, and travel. (race, age unimportant), I firmly believe that fantasy can become a reality. Write W/Ph, will gladly reply to all. DSP, PO Box 4132, Oak Park, IL 60303, Chow!

## YES DADDY SIR!

Bold Blond-bearded, hairy and very well-hung WGM, (HIV-neg), 33, looking for boyman who loves to give excellent oral service & respect. Learner welcome. You should be romantic, intelligent, GWM, with facial hair, slim or muscular or BB, 5'8", or shorter, 18-30, & in need of a romantic & secure topman to lovingly show you how to do it. Photo/Phone ans. Outweek Box 1751

## SUBMISSIVE WM, 40

5'9", 145lbs, Dancer's body, will wear panties, nylons, high heels, etc, tog, masc hung men. Discreet, Kniky dates sat your place, NYC only. Lee, POB 146, Prince Street Stn, NYC, 10012.

## LOVE ON THE SIDE

I have a lover but feel hemmed in. Are you in sim situation? I seek discrete GD-king slim funny smart kind man in 30's for occas roll in the hay. I am handsome, bearded, 38, 5'10", 165lb, literate, successful, horny man. Fantasies run a little rough - boxing a turn-on, jockstraps & sweat. But don't let that scare you. This is new for me too. Discretion, affection & hot wkday mornings - that's all I'm after. Take a chance. Outweek Box 1753

## MID-30'S GOODLOOKING

In-shape, creative, lovers open to meeting similar types, singles/duos for sensual safe sex. Into music, art, movies & other turn-ons. We're friendly, hot & secure. Letter/Photo/Phone to JR Box 29, 201 Washington Street, Hoboken, NJ 07030.

## KINKY NEOPHYTE

GWM, Upper West Side, wants to learn kinky safe sex. 31, 5'10", 150lbs, Br/Gt, pretty face, masc. You: clean-cut, filthy mind, creative, 28-40. Experienced mentor or another novice ok. I'm HIV-; so must you be. PO Box 0734, Planetarium Station, NYC, 10024-0734.

## DADDY'S BOY

GWM, 37, 210lbs, hry chest, seeks son for dinner, movies, sex, role play (Daddy's pleasure &

# THE LEATHER LINE

**CALL NOW!**



**HEY BUDDY...  
IT'S FOR  
YOU!!**

**TALK LIVE WITH  
HOT LEATHER MEN  
24 HOURS DAILY!**

**TOPS - BOTTOMS  
MASTERS - SLAVES**

**95 CENTS PER MINUTE**

**( You must be 18 or older )**

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**A:**

**550-1212**

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TO SOME OF THE BEST  
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THE NEW YORK  
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ONLY 15¢ MIN. + 40¢ FIRST MIN.

YOU MUST BE 18 OR OLDER

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8665  
7863

4865  
550

5656  
550  
9999

3625  
2000

4273  
7777

550-7588  
550-2888  
4000-7825

7927  
50-2525

550-24  
4000-7  
550  
5656  
550

possibly yours) Poss relat. Prefer smooth & large pistol but will consider others. Replies with photo, letter, tel no., get Ans too: Dad, LTS, 20276, NYC, 10011.

**TAKE IT OFF!**

Take it all off! And strut your stuff for admiring group of 6-10 friends (30ish). Dance a little & have a lot of fun. Send photo & requirements to PO Box 5725, Woolsey Station, LIC, NY 11105. Good dancer preferred. Cute, hot, boyish body required.

**400 POUNDS PLUS**

GWM, 37, 210lbs, seeks very fat man for good times, dinner, movies, safe sex, possible relationship, for the guy who steals my heart. Replies with explicit photo, letter, tel no., get answer. Write BML, 20053, LTS, NYC, 10011.

**I WOULD LIKE TO MEET**

A well built BI or Gay masc guy for friendship and/or reltnshp. Me: GWM, 39, 5'10", 170lbs, Masc, Gdkg, clean-cut, discreet. I have a car - Surburbs ok. Box 1534, Madison Square Stn, NY 10159.

**ATHLETES ONLY**

Handsome, well defined, jock, 29, 5'6", 140lbs, BI/Gr, Hung-Uncut/8". Seeks other athletes only, 18-35, for erotic workouts. Hard Bodies a must. Send Photo/Phone/Letter to Outweek Box 1760

**DREAMY CRUISE QUEER**

Young hunk wants whoppes with blooming

earth body lover. Funky virile sexskinicious, cock indefatigable, cum home Rockaway, blow my mind, arm in arm tongue on tongue, ablaze astride inside each other's fuck-forever true gay wow! Photo/Phone gets mine. David, c/o Boxholder, PO Box 1251, New York, NY 10013.

**MIDDLE AGED COSMOPOLITAN MAN;**

seeks similar person; Conservative lifestyle, 50-60, companionship, friendship and travel. Write Outweek Box 1782.

**HAIRY, MUSCULAR CHEST**

Desperately looking to be stroked. I'm 33, 5'8", 165lbs, bearded with black curly hair. I like travel, books, politics, dining out, theatre, movies, music, camping, hiking, and candlelight dinners. If you're 35 or younger and have a smooth chest, drop me a line. GL #15F, 496 Hudson, New York, NY 10014. Let's spend a weekend in bed!

**NEED A SPANKING?**

Attr guy 43, 6', 160lbs, will put you across his knee and pull down your underpants & spank you till you promise to behave. Am into fantasy - not pain. Beginners welcome. Box 1316, FDR STN, NYC, 10150. Sincere replies only.

**INEXPERIENCED?**

New to the scene? Very hot BM, 6', 180lbs, 30's, wants to be your sexual mentor. Don't be shy. Let's share long, caring, erotic times at my place. Take a chance. Write: PO Box 786, New York, NY 10026.

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BIGGER AND HOTTER  
THAN EVER...**

- THE MEN YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR...
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- REGIONAL BULLETIN BOARDS
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**...AND NOW—NO CREDIT CARD  
NEEDED!**

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**ONLY 95¢ A MINUTE**

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NOW FAX YOUR PERSONAL AD  
TO  
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**550-9999**

(212, 718, 516, 914)

YOU MUST BE OVER 18 • 5 MINUTES 51

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

OFFICE USE ONLY

# \_\_\_\_\_

Start Issue: \_\_\_\_\_

Paid \_\_\_\_\_ Keyed \_\_\_\_\_ Proofed \_\_\_\_\_

All OutWeek Classified Advertising is prepaid.

**The Deadline is NOON MONDAY, one week before on-sale date.**

OutWeek reserves the right to edit, reject or rewrite any advertisement.

In case of error on our part, no refunds -- additional insertions only.

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Mail sent to OutWeek Box #s is forwarded weekly, on Tuesdays.

OutWeek boxes are NOT to be used for the distribution of bulk mail or advertising circulars.

FOR YOUR SAFETY, NO STREET ADDRESSES ARE PERMITTED IN THE PERSONALS SECTION.

OUTWEEK BOX #s OR P.O. BOXES ONLY.

Return this entire page,  
with appropriate payment, to:  
OutWeek Classifieds  
77 Lexington Avenue  
New York, NY 10010.

## CLASSIFIED RATES:

\$3 per line (seven line minimum). Please conform your ad copy to the grid.

## FREQUENCY DISCOUNTS:

4x ..... 10%

13x ..... 15%

26x ..... 20%

## PERSONALS RATES:

\$1 per line (seven line minimum). Please conform your ad copy to the grid.

## DISPLAY CLASSIFIED RATES:

\$25 / column inch. Please inquire for frequency discounts. Column width: 1 7/8"

## CLASSIFIED / PERSONAL ORDER FORM

One letter, space, or punctuation mark per box.

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	

## PERSONALS

\_\_\_\_\_ lines @ \$1.00 (seven line minimum)= \_\_\_\_\_

times \_\_\_\_\_ weeks ad is to run: \_\_\_\_\_

Give me an OutWeek Box #  
and forward my mail each week for \_\_\_\_\_  
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**TOTAL ENCLOSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

## CLASSIFIEDS

Category: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ lines @ \$3.00 (seven line minimum)= \_\_\_\_\_

times \_\_\_\_\_ weeks ad is to run: \_\_\_\_\_

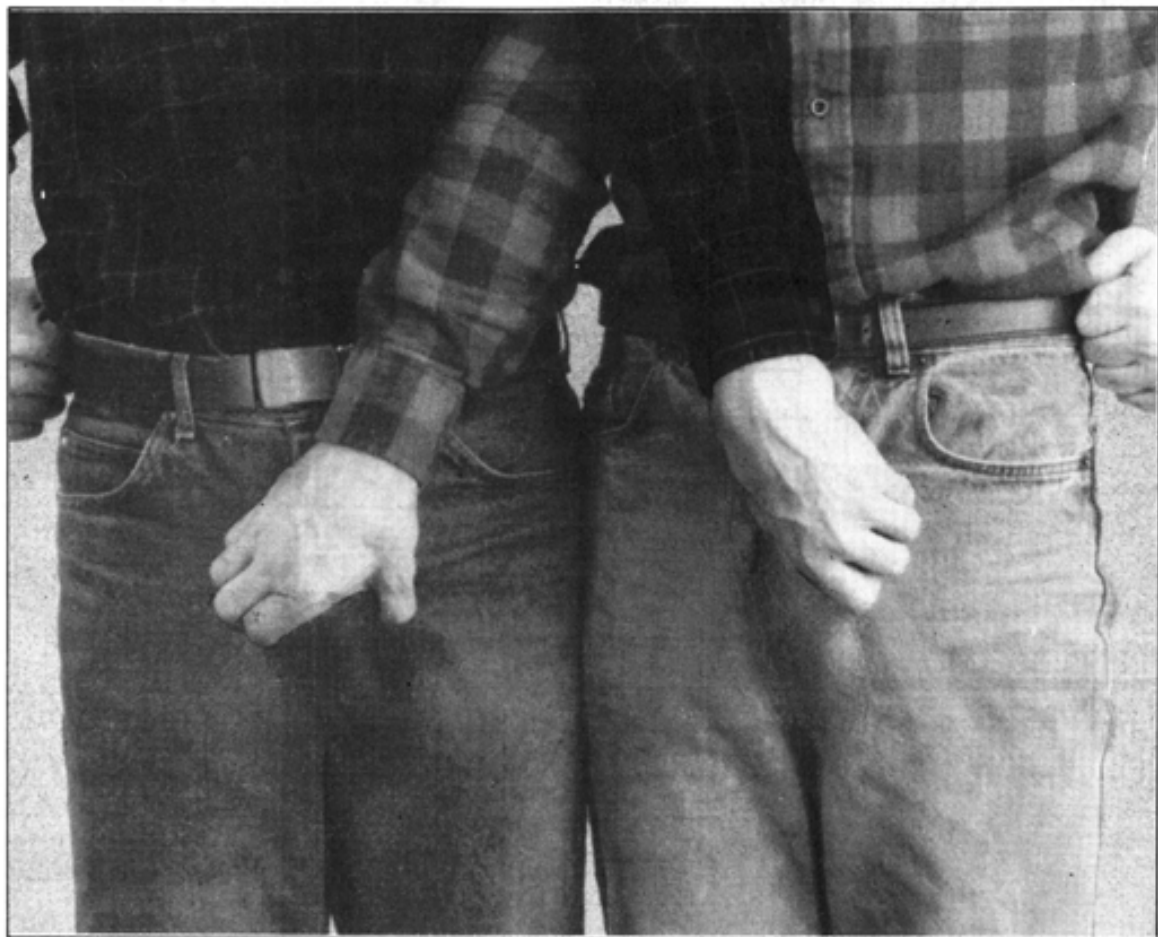
if ad is to run four or more times,  
deduct appropriate frequency discount: \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

Charge my Visa / Mastercard. Acct. # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# ONE- ON-ONE

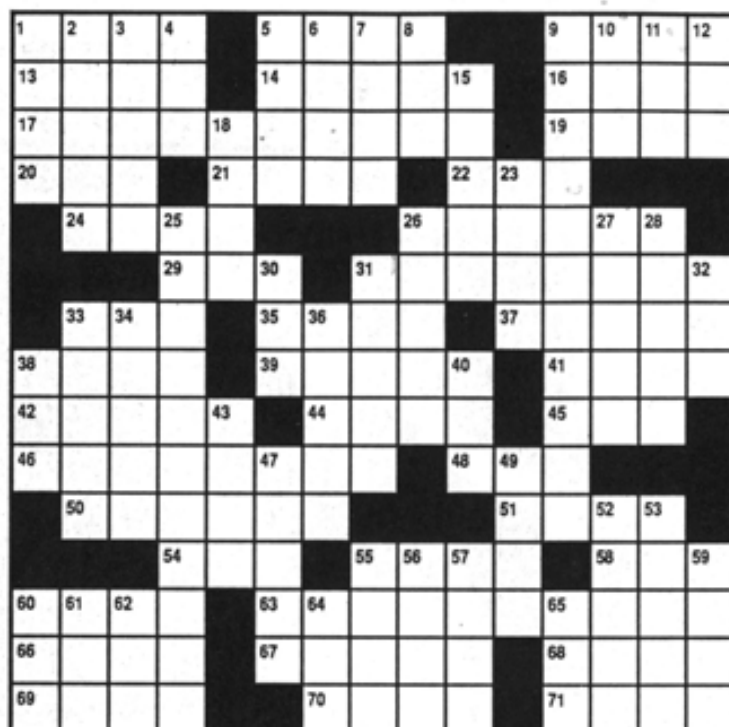


# 1-900 990-6900

\$1 per minute, \$2 the first

# OutWeek Crossword

by Phil Greco  
Edited by Gabriel Rotello



5. Spotted
6. Monty Python's Eric
7. Lt. Cable's lover
8. *Legs Diamond*, i.e.
9. 1933 film
10. Fuss
11. Morning moisture
12. Over there
15. *Edward*, \_\_\_\_\_
18. 1906 gay novel
23. *Travels With My* \_\_\_\_\_
25. Colman's 1947 Oscar film
26. Give a tenth of
27. Praying woman
28. Of birth
30. Compass dir.
31. Finger
32. Twin-screw steamer (abbr.)
33. Writer Marguerite
34. Rend
36. Cores
38. Jet \_\_\_\_\_
40. Prefix: three
43. Farm structure
47. Heaps on condiments
49. Alan or Diane
52. \_\_\_\_\_ Agnew
53. Inquiring mind
55. \_\_\_\_\_ *In The Name Of Love*
56. Jackrabbit
57. Jet black
59. \_\_\_\_\_ O'Casey
60. Cable sta.
61. \_\_\_\_\_ de cologne
62. *Adam's* \_\_\_\_\_
64. Phillipine native
65. 'Queen of the fairies'

## SOLUTION IN NEXT WEEK'S OUTWEEK ON SALE MONDAY

### ACROSS

1. \_\_\_\_\_ *Make Love*
5. \_\_\_\_\_ *Is The Wind*
9. *Tarnished* \_\_\_\_\_
13. Fever
14. Detestation
16. Idea: comb. form
17. 1964's best film
19. *Girl's About* \_\_\_\_\_
20. Fitting
21. Word with track or swim
22. Used a chair
24. Ivan or Peter, e.g.
26. French city
29. Ruby or Sandra
31. With 39 Across, a 1933 classic
33. Dist. Svc. Ord.
35. \_\_\_\_\_ and polish
37. Sexist slang for vulvae
38. Berg opera
39. See 31 Across
41. Munson, et al
42. Meccans, e.g.

44. Layer
45. Material (abbr.)
46. Ingrid's 1944 Oscar film
48. \_\_\_\_\_ de France
50. Pays reluctantly, with 'out'
51. Loop
54. Toilet
55. Wearing topsiders
58. Letter ends
60. Actress Garr
63. Tracy-Hepburn film
66. Innocent
67. *The Philadelphia* \_\_\_\_\_
68. Defunct disco
69. Word with inner or test
70. Pinnacle
71. \_\_\_\_\_ *Yesterday*

### DOWN

1. Panchen \_\_\_\_\_
2. Handel's *Israel In* \_\_\_\_\_
3. Actor Sonny
4. Black or Red

## SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE





HardCore To  
Domination OR  
Bondage UNDE

HOT WAX Chains W

HANDcuffs B&D L  
Glory Hole FIST

Slave BOOTS FF  
Military Heavy t

ON D O E

4 INCH B J To  
F'cking

Sters Har  
Jes Mast  
Moore B

Heavy t

Boots

glory

Cruise H

attribution

WAX

uff B&D L  
7 Hole FIST

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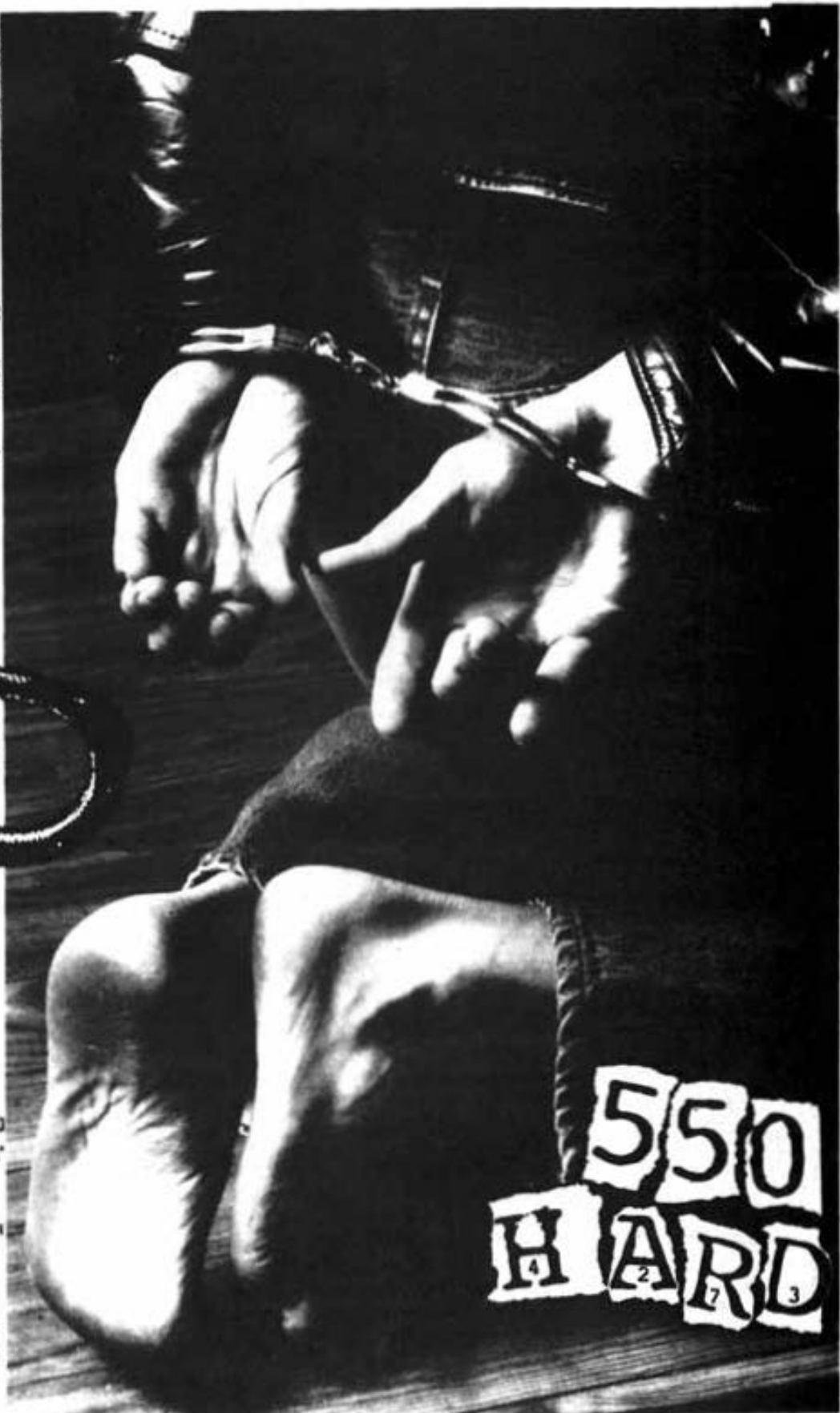
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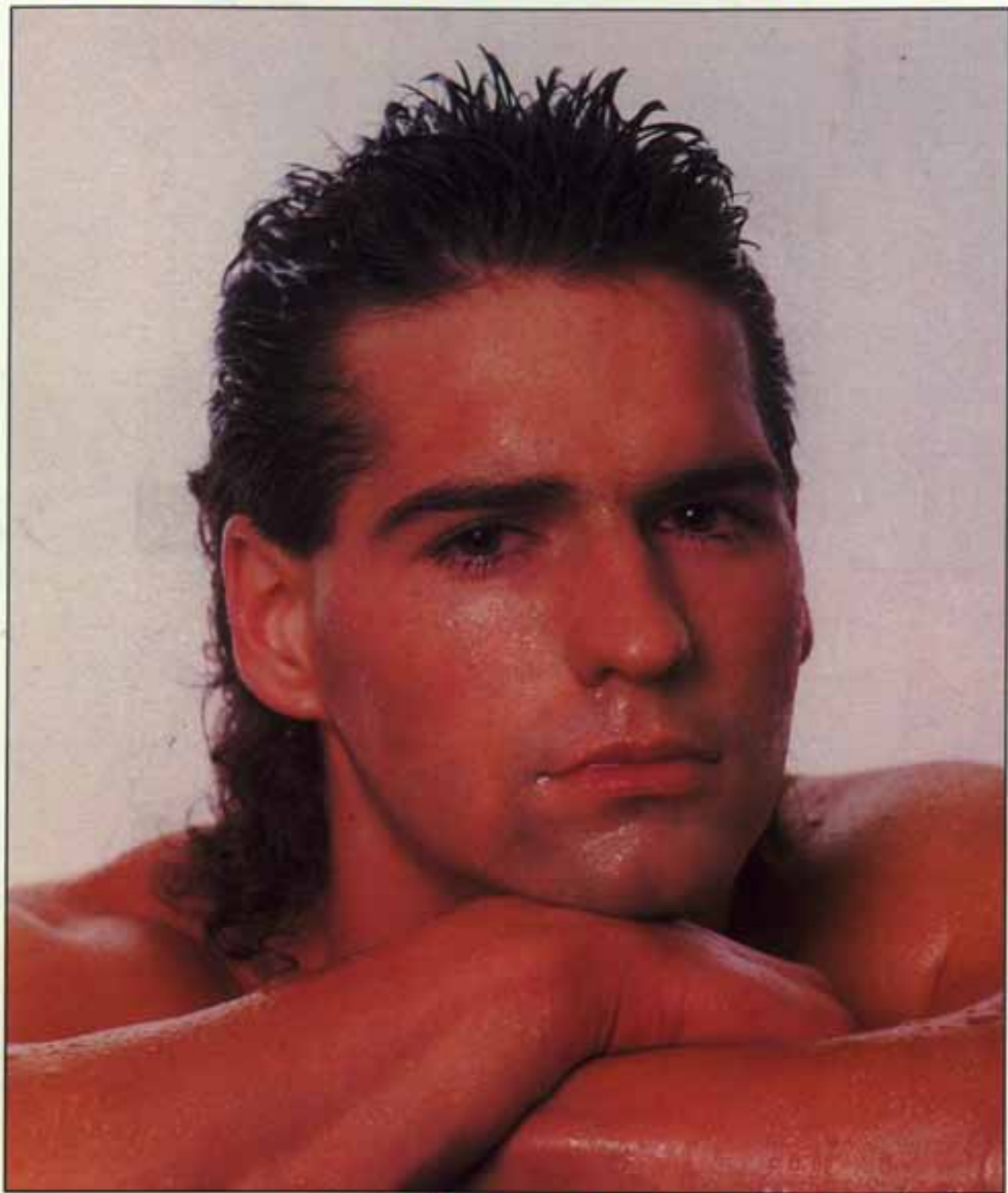
**LEIGH BOWERY**, designer, performer, artist and pop icon, is probably the most visually shocking character since Oscar Wilde.

A native Australian who once envisioned a career in archaeology, Leigh is currently starring in John Mayberry's latest film. Other film credits include Cerith Wyn Evans' *Degrees of Blindness*, which swept awards in Holland and Switzerland, and a New Year's Day premier of Charles Atlas' *Because We Must*.

Famous for being famous, Leigh's self-invention is a creation almost as genius as his art. An avid fan of travelling, he's in high demand among the outrageous jet set and can be frequently seen terrorizing some of the world's best parties as simply an "object d'art." Color being one of his most important tools, Bowery explains, "I've never understood this black thing. I love colors and I don't think that I've ever owned a piece of black clothing except possibly I once had a black pair of shoes."

Whether it's hot colored wax dripping off his head or a hot pink satin bondage suit, Bowery will always reign as *La Reina Hysterical* of the avant garde. Leigh, press on!

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